

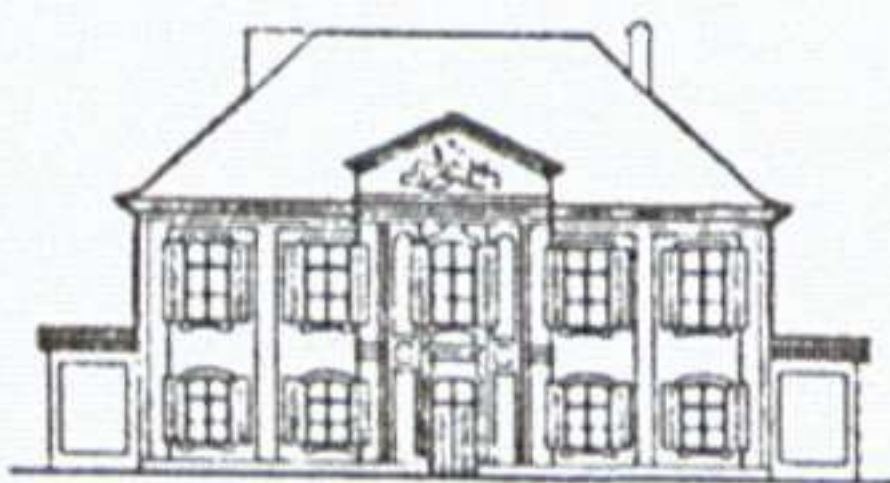
HISTORY OF
MADEIRA

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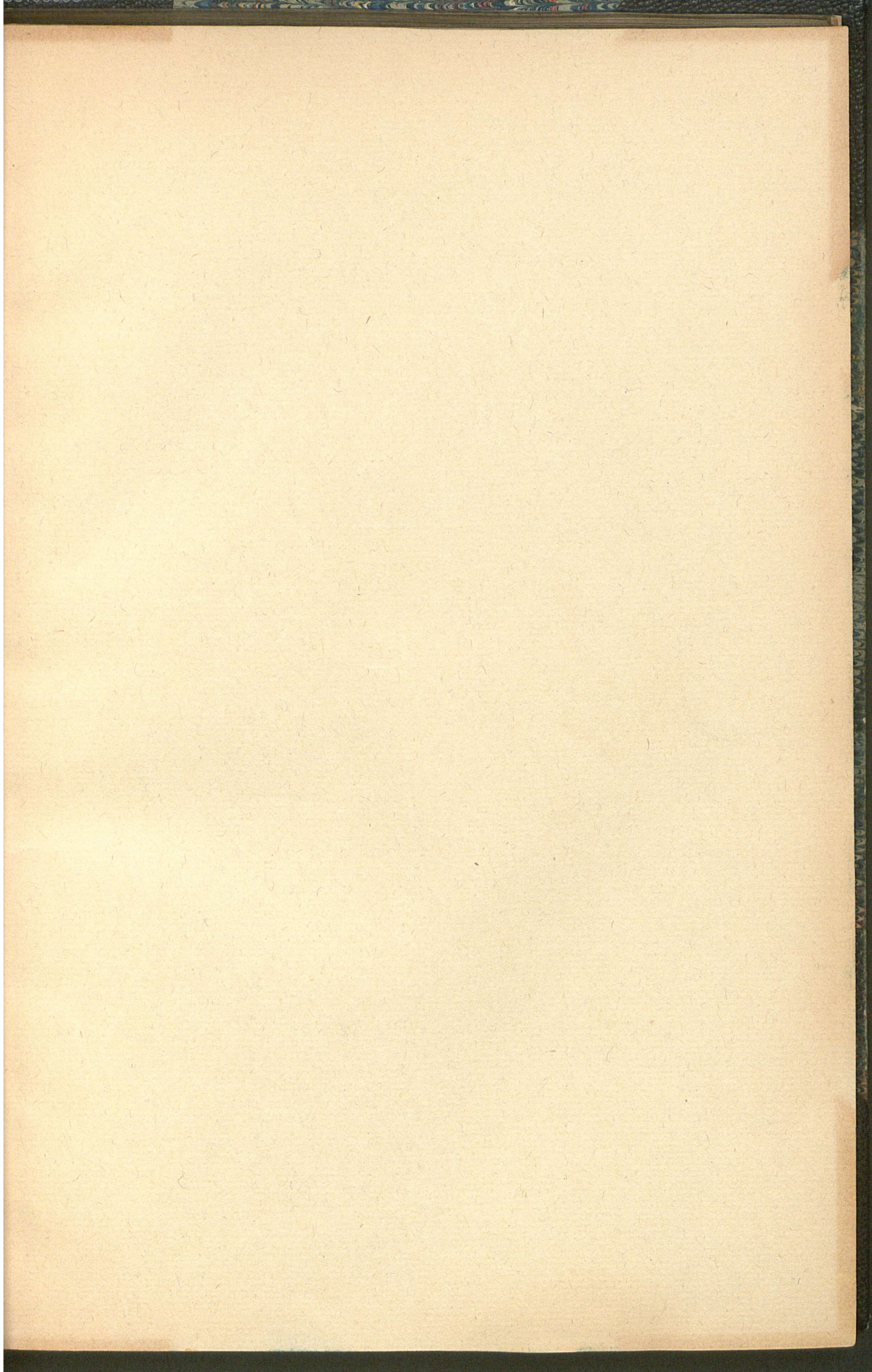
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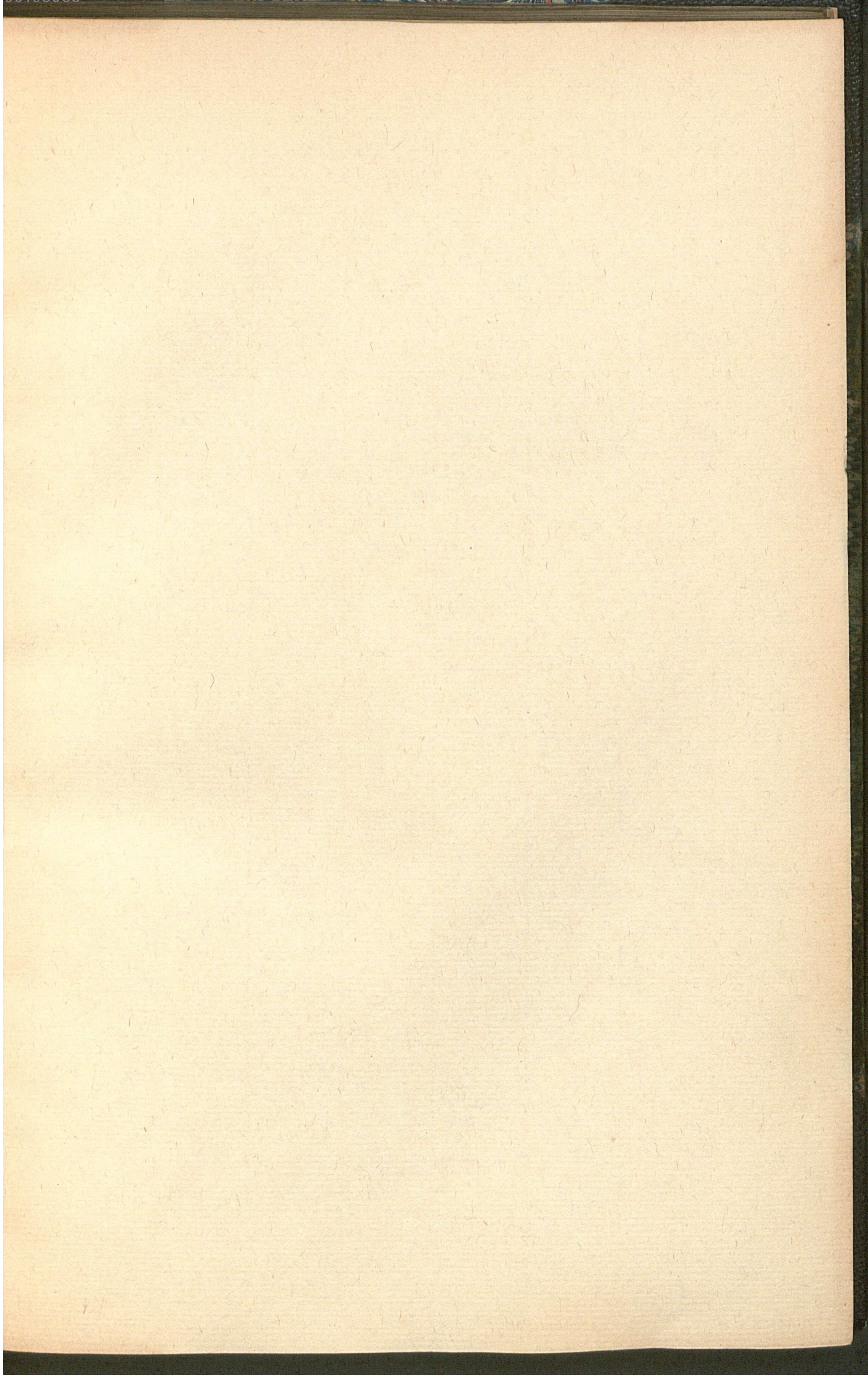


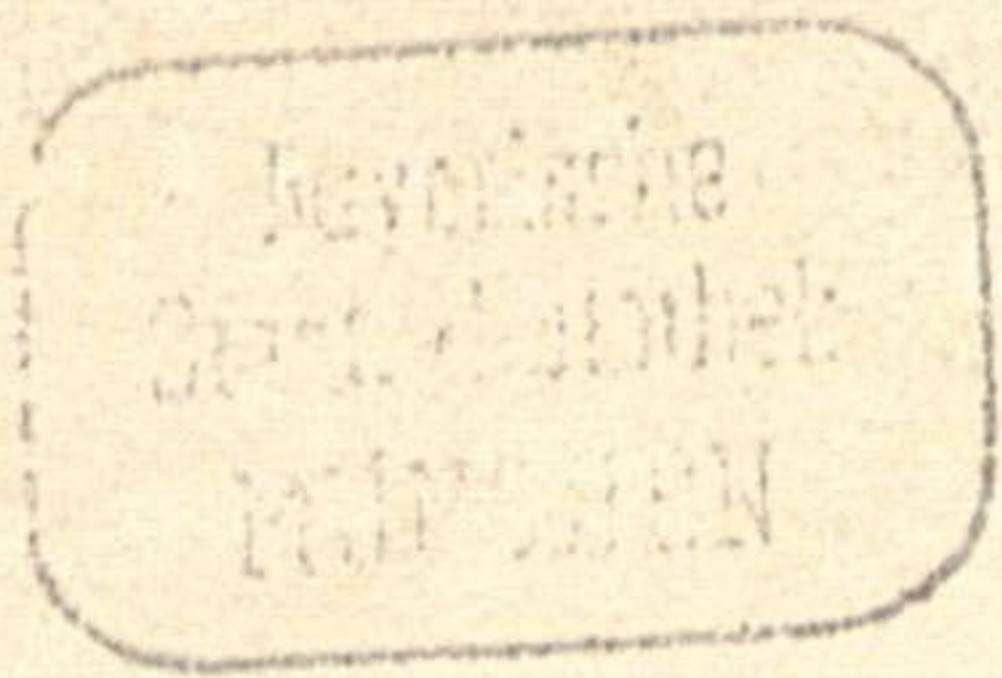
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*Carl Friedrich von Siemens
Stiftung*







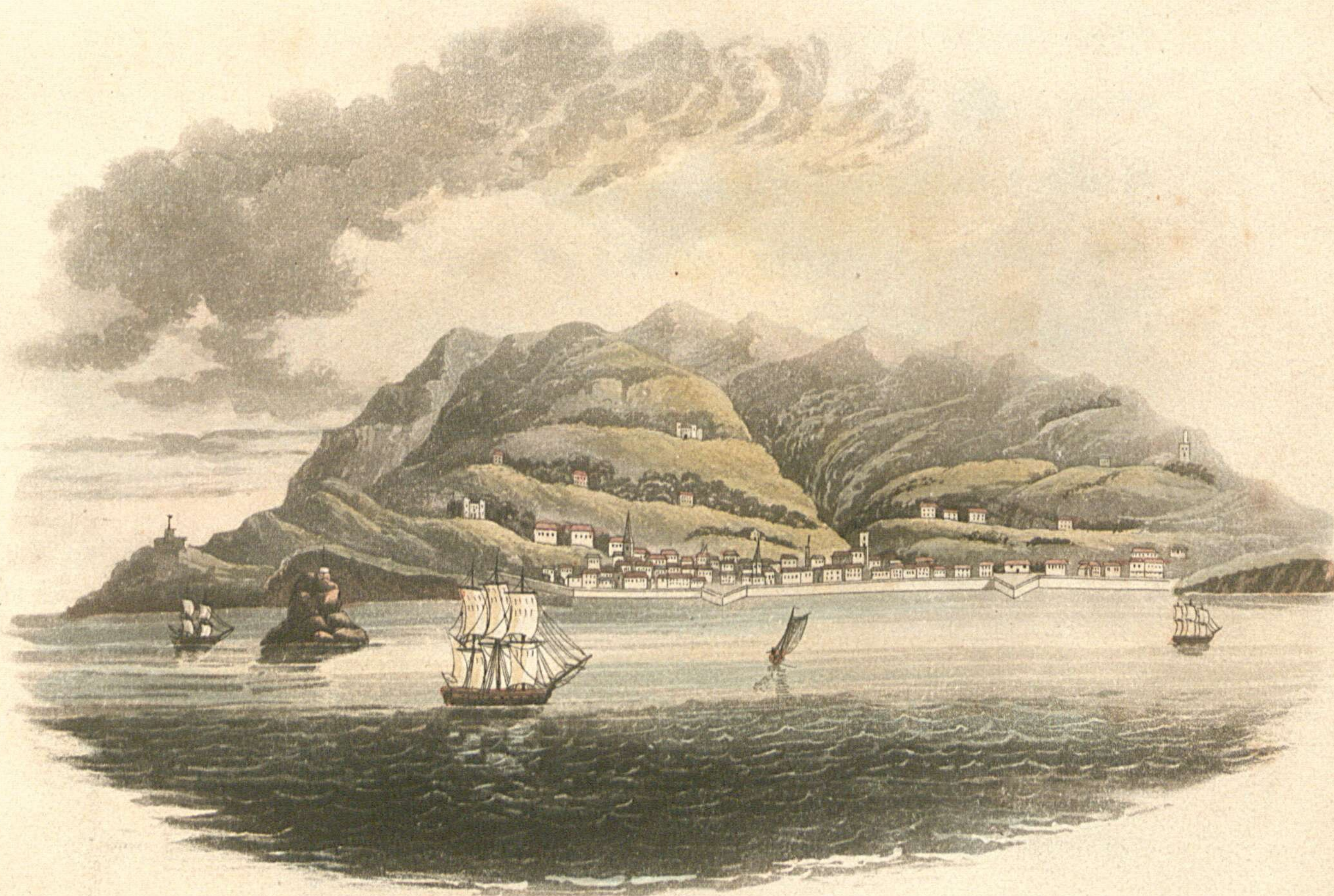


A Prior of the Order of S.^t Francis, & a Lay Brother.

A
HISTORY
OF
MADEIRA.

WITH
A Series of Twenty-seven coloured Engravings,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE
COSTUMES, MANNERS, AND OCCUPATIONS
OF THE
Inhabitants of that Island.



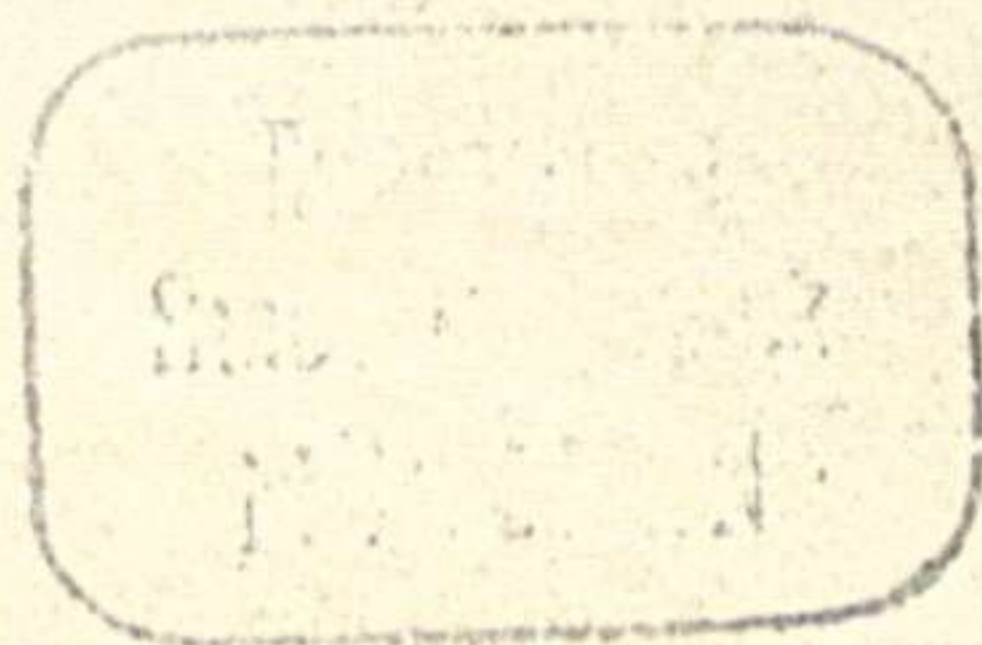
LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY R. ACKERMANN, 101, STRAND,
AND SOLD BY ALL THE BOOKSELLERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1821.

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PREFACE.

AMONG the numerous topographical works which have issued from the British press, comprehending various parts of the British empire, as well as many attractive features of other countries, it may be a matter of justifiable surprise, that the Island of Madeira has received so little attention from the pen and the pencil, when it forms such a pregnant subject for the powers of both. Its important situation in the track of British commerce has long rendered it familiar to the British ear; but, of late years, it has acquired an added interest from the recommendation of its climate, by medical experience, to British invalids, in cases where their native air fails to produce relief. It has also become

more intimately connected with this country, from having been, for a considerable period, under the protection of a large body of English forces, who were received into it to prevent its seizure by Buonaparte, during the period of his all-grasping dominion. Under these impressions this Volume is offered to the Public. It is presumed that its pages will not be found defective in historical or topographical information, and that the manners of the people are correctly displayed in a series of Engravings, communicated by a resident of the island, which, by the enlivened character of the designs, will tend to amuse the inquisitive reader, and instruct the visitors of the island in that preparatory knowledge, so essential to the comforts of their residence, whatever may be their motives to become inhabitants of it, or whatever circumstances may govern their abode in it.

These designs being made with a view to display character, as well as dress and figure, appropriate thoughts naturally arising from the description have been ventured, to increase the interest of the picture; and it is hoped, that the effect will not be lessened by their being clothed in

verse. In this respect, the desire to please will perhaps awaken indulgence if it cannot excite praise.

To Doctor Gourlay's ingenious pamphlet on the Natural History, Climate, Productions, &c., of Madeira, published in 1811, which has long been the only work relative to Madeira, this Volume is indebted for very correct information. A brief historical sketch of the island, published in the course of the last year, has also afforded some very useful instruction,

The short account given of the late change in the government of Madeira, originating in the revolution of the mother country, has been communicated from a very authentic and intelligent source, and is all indeed that can be hitherto known of that important event, as it relates to this Island.

HISTORY OF MADEIRA,

&c.

THE Island of Madeira is a valuable possession of the kingdom of Portugal, in the Atlantic Ocean; and to that power it has belonged, without the least interruption, from the time of its discovery. It is situated in thirty-two degrees thirty-seven minutes thirty seconds, north latitude; and in seventeen degrees longitude, west of Greenwich; about eighty leagues north by east from Teneriffe; one hundred and twenty leagues from Cape Cantin, on the coast of Africa; nearly an hundred leagues from the Island of Terno; and about seventeen leagues south-west from Porto Santo. It is about one hundred and twenty miles in circumference; its greatest length, from east to west, being forty-five miles; its greatest breadth, from south to north, fifteen miles; and its lesser breadth rather more than eight miles.

The island displays the figure of an oblong irregular quadrangle, and is formed of lofty mountains, hills, and fruitful valleys. Its more elevated parts generally rise in

a gradual ascent, the highest points of land being about eight thousand two hundred and fifty feet, or one mile and a-half above the level of the sea:

The situation of the island presents, in some places, the most enchanting scenery, abounding with all the softer pictures of natural beauty; while in others huge rocks, lofty precipices, prominent ridges, deep hollows, and rushing torrents, combine the most awful and charming examples of the sublime and beautiful, with their accessory features, in the landscape of nature; uniting the delights of Arcadia with Alpine magnificence. The various voyagers who have approached Madeira bear one common testimony to the beauty of its appearance from the sea.

That this island was known to the ancient geographers has been suggested by the conjectures of writers, who have directed their inquiries to maritime subjects, as connected with the more remote ages; and it is even supposed that authors of the classical periods have referred to it. But this opinion is rather of a dubious character; and we must pass over the long intermediate lapse of time, when, if it had been previously known, it must have escaped from human observation, and come to the Portuguese historians, on whom we may place a more confident and natural reliance*; though here the spirit of romance seems to blend itself with the narrative of the historian.

* The Abbé Raynal, a writer of singular genius, most independent mind, and indefatigable research respecting the period in which he lived, and the

Ovington, in his *History of Surat*, observes that some geographers ascribe the discovery of Madeira to John Gonsalvo and Tristram, who were among the navigators

state of things which presented themselves to his inquisitive spirit, thus introduces an account of the Madeiras, in his celebrated work, entitled *A Philosophical and Political History of the Settlements and Trade of the Europeans in the East and West Indies*. This eminent writer is known to have possessed a vivid imagination, which has sometimes lessened confidence in his authority as an historian, in whom a disposition to indulge the excursive flights of fancy must ever be a suspected quality. But the curiosity of the account, and the celebrity of its writer, will justify, it is presumed, an allusion to it. After an animated description of the state of Europe at the commencement of the fourteenth century, he represents the character of the Portuguese monarch, then at the head of an active and intelligent people, as forming an unexampled design of extending his dominions by sea, and encouraging, by his patronising spirit and ample rewards, the adventurous voyages of his subjects into those seas, where from remote traditions, derived, fancifully, as it now appears, from ancient geographers, or the dreams of poetry, the island Atalantis was, in that credulous age, believed to exist.

It was an opinion generally prevailing, that it was impossible to sail across the Atlantic Ocean; this error, however, was dissipated by the Moors and the Arabs, who had already communicated so much knowledge to Europe. They, it was believed, had not only sailed across a sea that was deemed impracticable, but had also obtained riches from a country supposed to be on fire. Such prevailing notions, suited to the genius of the age, encouraged an adventurous spirit among the more maritime nations of Europe. But Henry, son of John the First, King of Portugal, was the only one who adopted wise measures in pursuit of it.

This prince, availing himself of the knowledge, imperfect as it might be, which was preserved among the Arabs, established an observatory at Sagres, a city of Algarva, a maritime province of Portugal, on the borders of the Atlantic Ocean, where the young noblemen who composed his court were instructed. He had himself a considerable share in the invention of the astrolabe, and

employed, or at least encouraged, by Henry, Infant of Portugal; but Cordeyro, who possesses a superior rank among the Portuguese historians, attributes it to an English gentleman, of the name of Machin, which opinion is supported by the concurring testimony of so many subsequent writers, that, involved as it may be with romance and fiction, there is reason to believe that the outline of the story may be founded in truth.

This extraordinary, interesting, and melancholy event is related to have taken place in the reigns of Edward the Third of England, and Don John the First of Portugal; and is thus related, with some trifling variations, by the different historians of it.

An English gentleman, (some, indeed, have dignified

was the first who became sensible of the advantages that might be drawn from the compass, which, though already known in Europe, had never been applied to the purposes of navigation. The pilots, who studied under his direction, are said to have discovered Madeira in 1419; but the Abbé makes no allusion whatever to the love-story of Machin, of which, however, he must have heard, and probably considered as a groundless fable. He, however, mentions that this island had been considered by learned men as the poor remains of the ancient Atalantis. But it is a question whether there ever was such an island; or, if so, what was its situation and extent; and these are points which must be determined by the interpretation of what Diodorus Siculus and Plato have said on the subject. The only testimony which will give any weight to the conjecture appears to be this: that the Atlantic Sea is not of any considerable depth; and that, at a great distance from its shores, those substances are found, which, in the opinion of philosophers, denote the existence of an ancient continent, of which the Madeiras may have been a part.

him with the rank of nobility,) whose name was Robert Machin, became deeply enamoured of a young lady, whose name was D'Arfet, to which some have preferred that of D'Orset, and so on to further variations of Eufet. She was adorned with rare beauty, and possessed superior endowments, while the nobility of her birth received the addition of ample fortunes. But these distinctions did not interrupt the violence of that passion, which Machin's virtues and accomplishments had awakened in her bosom. Nevertheless, the pride of her family interposed: they considered disgrace as the certain consequence of such an inferior union, and sacrificed her happiness by a compelled marriage with a nobleman of high rank and great wealth, who was the object of her abhorrence.

To secure this ambitious and mercenary design, which might be interrupted, if not altogether frustrated, by the violent and reciprocal passion of the lovers, a warrant was obtained from the king to apprehend Machin, and keep him in close confinement, till the projected and odious marriage was accomplished. No sooner, therefore, was the nuptial ceremony thus completed than the triumphant, but detested, husband bore away his wretched bride to one of his family seats, a strong castle, situated in the vicinity of Bristol: When the pride and avarice of the lady's family being thus, as it was supposed, perfectly secured from any effectual invasion, the unfortunate and persecuted lover was dismissed from his prison.

The first moments, however, of his liberty brought the

tidings of despair; for he then heard that the darling object of his heart had been compelled by parental tyranny to give her hand to his rival. Almost frantic from disappointed passion, and animated with the deepest sense of revenge at the barbarian violence imposed on the lady's affections, as well as the ardent feeling of his own injuries, he formed a design to extricate her from a situation, which, he had every reason to believe, must be a state of extreme wretchedness to her. This daring object his inflamed hopes encouraged him to undertake; and, with a band of chosen friends, who were ready to engage in any enterprise which he should propose, he proceeded to Bristol, when one of them having, by some stratagem, gained admittance into the castle of the nobleman, soon found an opportunity to make known to the lady the fidelity, the wishes, and projected designs of her lover. Her consent does not appear to have been attended with any reluctant hesitation; and, having thus liberated her from the thralldom of her tyrannic lord, the successful party set sail from Bristol in a small vessel, with the design of reaching the coast of France. But tempestuous weather ensued; and, there being no qualified pilot on board, and Machin's associates not being sufficiently acquainted with maritime affairs, they missed their destined port, and were driven into the wide ocean, where they were tossed about for thirteen days, expecting instant destruction; when, on the dawn of the fourteenth, in a state hopeless and exhausted, they saw a dark object before them, which they imagined might be land; and, when the sun rose, they perceived with infinite delight that their hopes were fulfilled.

As they drew near to the land, the country assumed a most beautiful appearance; birds, with white and yellow plumage, flitted about the vessel: the waves were tranquil; and the scene before them wore the air of enchantment. With some restriction, it might be supposed almost to realise the following description of Spenser:

It was a chosen spot of blooming land,
Amongs wide waves, set like a little nest;
As if it had by Nature's cunning hand
Been choicely picked out from all the rest,
And laid forth for example of the best.
No daintie herb or flower that grows on ground,
No arboureth, with painted blossoms drest,
And smelling sweet, but there it might be found,
To bud out faire, and her sweet fragrance throw arounde.

The boat was eagerly launched from the ship, with a party to examine the beautiful spot within their view. They soon returned with such an encouraging account, that Machin conducted his beloved to what he hoped would afford, for the present at least, repose, refreshment, and security. The part of the island where they landed presented views of transcendent beauty. Bold hills, wide-spreading woods, deep romantic valleys, and verdant glades, with an infinite variety of trees, which vied with each other in all the charm of foliage and of blossom; while the water was seen to fall down the rocks, and meander in crystal streams through the dells beneath them. Fruits, of various kinds, seemed to be prepared by

nature for their refreshment; and the honey, which was found in abundance amidst the crannies of the rocks possessed the odour of violets. An opening in the extensive woods, which was encircled with laurels and flowering shrubs, presented an inviting retreat; and a tree of immense shade, the probable growth of ages, offered a verdant canopy of impenetrable foliage. Here they projected the forming a residence from the abundant materials with which nature supplied them. Thus the wandering party are represented as deriving enjoyment from the change in their condition, the novelty of the spot, and the beauties, as well as the various productions of the scenes which they visited in their different excursions about the more accessible parts of the island. Here they anticipated a state of delightful security till they had composed themselves into a calmness of mind which might suggest and govern their future designs.

But this state of comparative comfort was destined to be of short duration; for, before they had removed any of the ship's contents on shore, for their immediate accommodation, the vessel itself, being but ill-anchored, was, during the night of the fourth day, driven by a sudden tempest out to sea, where she was considered as lost; as in the morning, she was no longer visible. This unexpected and irremediable calamity, had such a distressing effect upon the dejected spirits and wearied frame of the lady, that she shortly expired in the arms of her distracted lover. He could not sustain the shock of this overwhelming loss, and lived but a few days to lament her. This sad interval he

employed in erecting a memorial to perpetuate his fidelity, affection, and misfortunes.

He laid her in the earth,
Himself scarce living; and, upon her tomb,
Beneath the beauteous tree where they reclin'd,
Plac'd the last tribute of his earthly love.

In the last cruel moments of his expiring life, Machin implored his friends to consign his remains to the same grave which contained those of his beloved Anna, who had sacrificed so much for him. This request was religiously fulfilled at the foot of an altar, erected under a tree of wide-spreading beauty, against whose stupendous stem was placed a large cross of cedar, which time seems to have venerated, as it still remains to excite the sympathizing feelings of those who visit the spot. Near this sacred emblem, was an inscription dictated by the dying lover, containing his sad history, and which concluded with a pious request, that if any Christians should, at some future period, form a settlement in that island, they would there erect a church, and consecrate it to the Redeemer of Mankind. A devout hope which, in the providential course of human events, has been since fulfilled.

Now Anna lies beneath the green turf sleeping
In the cold arms of death; while o'er her, weeping
The bitter drops of anguish, Machin kneels
Beside her grave;—oh! what his soul now feels,
Is felt by them alone whose hearts are riven,
Whose bliss is past, whose only hope is heaven!

Oh ! when the heart is breaking 'neath its fate,
How dark, how cheerless, and how desolate
Is the lone path-way to the tomb ! then, all
That bless'd us once, adds terrors to our fall
From airy heights of happiness and bliss !
Ah ! Machin felt the hopeless truth of this !
His love untimely lost, his day-dreams o'er,
Ambition, honour, fame, could charm no more.
His soul had lost that bright, that restless flame
Which lights us on to glory, or to shame :
His heart was crush'd by deep, by cureless grief ;
His youth departed like a withering leaf ;
Destin'd to fall ere Autumn's sick'ning ray
Had come to snatch it from its branch away !
His Anna lost, he deem'd it bliss to die ;
Her dear name linger'd on his latest sigh.
That cherish'd name, so long belov'd, had power
To calm the anguish of his dying hour !
Far from their own, their native land, they slept ;
No pitying kindred o'er their relics wept ;
MADEIRA'S earth enshrin'd the hapless pair,
The first who liv'd, who lov'd, who perish'd there *!

After the death of their leader, his distressed followers had no alternative, but to make the best attempt in their power to quit the island ; or to pass a miserable hopeless life, and die there. They exerted themselves, as may be naturally supposed, to the utmost, to accomplish the former.

* *Machin*, a poem, by J. Bird, p. 101.

Accounts differ as to the means they employed, whether in a boat which they might have fortunately preserved, or in a kind of canoe fabricated by themselves; at all events, they desperately committed themselves to the threatening dangers of the ocean. Those dangers, indeed, they providentially escaped, and life was preserved, but to undergo the worst state of it, to which our nature can be exposed,—that of slavery: for having reached the coast of Barbary, they were seized by the natives of the country, and sent in a state of captivity to Morocco. There, however, as one account relates, they had the melancholy consolation of meeting those of their companions, who were in the ship at the time she was forced out to sea by the tempest, and whom they supposed to have been lost. They had been previously driven also on the Barbary coast, and were in a state of hopeless slavery, when they were so unexpectedly joined by those whom they had left behind in the island.

In this situation, their past adventures formed a frequent topic of their conversation; and the extraordinary circumstances connected with them, attracted the attention of a fellow slave, a Spaniard, named Juan de Morales, a skilful seaman, and experienced pilot, of that period*. He accordingly availed himself of the opportunities which his imprisonment gave him, to inquire into the circumstances of the English voyagers, the nature and character of the island in which they had found such a delightful refuge, and all the various incidents which had befallen them. This

* He is also called Trôã de Amores.

information he treasured in his mind with great care ; and was soon after ransomed by the particular intervention of his own sovereign. On his return to Spain, however, he was taken prisoner off the coast of Algarve, and carried into Lisbon, by João Gonsalvez Zarco, a celebrated Portuguese navigator, to whom he related the curious and extraordinary narrative of his English companions at Morocco.

This distinguished and active commander, alive to every thing that related to maritime discovery, took the earliest opportunity of communicating the interesting, and, indeed, important intelligence, to the Infant Prince Henry of Portugal, whose mother was daughter to Edward the Third, of England. He possessed a gallant and enterprising spirit ; and, while he was a general patron of arts and sciences, he directed his thoughts with uncommon ardour to the advancement of navigation, and whatever tended to maritime discovery. The whole of this information he earnestly submitted to the attention of the king, his father, Don John the First ; who immediately ordered a ship to be fitted out, the command of which he gave to Zarco, with a view to the discovery of the island, of which such promising accounts had been given.

He accordingly sailed from Algarve, on the first of June, 1419 ; and, after a short voyage, reached Porto Santo, which had been discovered a few years before. It was in possession of the Portuguese government ; had been partially colonised, and was then under the command of Bartholomeo Perestrello. There he made a short stay ;

when the inhabitants informed him, that to the westward they always beheld a dark, stupendous object, which they never attempted to approach, from the superstitious apprehensions so common in that age, that, from its dismal appearance, it was the haunt or the abode of dæmons and evil spirits. The adventurous navigator was, however, too much habituated to the encountering unforeseen and unknown objects, in his various voyages and perilous enterprises, to be alarmed by such representations; he, therefore, determined to stand over, and encounter the objects of their terror; very naturally presuming, that the gloomy appearance which had occasioned so much dismay among the inhabitants of Porto Santo, was occasioned by the dense vapours which would be attracted by the close woody surface of the larger island, of which he had been informed by its English visitors. Such, indeed, was the cause of that dark exterior of the place, when seen at a distance, but which was dispersed on the nearer approach to it, and yielded to a display of lightsome beauty, that superstitious fancy, of another and more enlivening character, might have imagined it to be the land of fairies, or a scene of the golden age.

The Portuguese commander, however, received the reward of his perseverance, by making the easternmost point of the island, on the 14th of the same month, which he named St. Lawrence, in honour of the Saint on whose festal day it was discovered: though some have attributed this geographical distinction to its being the name of his ship. But be that as it may, on taking a southward course,

he entered a spacious and beautiful bay, where he cast anchor.

Here, one of his followers, Rui Paes, was sent on shore, to make observations on the situation, character, and produce, of the island. There appeared to be only one place which would admit of commodious landing, from the impassable state of the woods, which were close to the water's edge, and the quantity of logs and mutilated trunks of trees, brought down by the river in its torrent periods, and forming a kind of wall on the beach. He landed, however, on the very spot which the devoted English voyagers had occupied, and found the place as they had described it, covered with trees in great variety, and of magnificent growth ; scenes replete with natural beauty, in all the contrast of verdant vale and mountain-rock ; the whole refreshed with water in all its forms, and affording the promise of abundant fertility. Having observed the imprint of human footsteps, he was soon led to trace the spot where the unfortunate lovers terminated their existence. The altar, with the cross and inscription, was soon discovered ; and, in commemoration of the unhappy Machin, the scene received the name of Machico, by which it continues, at this day, to be distinguished.

With these discoveries, Paes returned to the ship ; when Zarco, accompanied by two priests, disembarked on the 2d day of July, 1419, and paid a pious visit to the sepulchre of the lovers. They then performed the ceremonial of thanks-

giving for the fortunate discovery of the island; and then took formal possession of it in the name of the king of Portugal, to the dominions of which crown it has since belonged. Mass was then celebrated, in a small cell which had been excavated in the trunk of a vast tree, and was probably accomplished by the English, previous to their departure from the island. The service for the dead, according to the Romish ritual, was afterwards performed over the tomb of Machin and his Anna D'Arfet, when the solemnity concluded by laying the first stone of a church which, according to the pious request inscribed in the memorial, was dedicated to the Redeemer of the World. Zarco afterwards ordered the wide-spreading, branchy tree, beneath whose expanded foliage Machin and his companions took up their too transient insular abode, to be cut down; and it is represented as containing a sufficient quantity of wood to complete a small church, in which the pavement of the choir was intersected with the bones of the two unfortunate lovers.

These navigators saw no human inhabitants on the island: two buried forms of Youth and Beauty were the only possessors of it. Nor were there any ferocious animals, poisonous reptiles, or biting insects; but numerous flocks of birds, with the most beautiful plumage, appeared to enliven the scenes, and were so entirely free from alarm, that they familiarly approached the new lords of the island, and, with confidential alacrity, perched on various parts of their persons, whether they were stationary or in active motion.

The ground is represented as being so entirely covered with odoriferous herbs, that every footstep appeared to produce a varied fragrance: nor did it less abound with flowers, whose colours glistened on the sight. So large, and of such impervious enclosure, was the sylvan part of the island, and of such vast growth a large portion of the trees which composed it, that Zarco did not hesitate to name the overshadowed spot, the Island of MADEIRA, or *Mattera*, which signifies the ISLAND of WOOD.

Proceeding onward in his course to the westward, the active and sagacious navigator discovered a spot which he considered the best suited for the site of a town, to become a capital of the island; and being covered by the plant known by the name of *Fennel*, which is *Funchal* in the Portuguese language, this botanical circumstance gave the place a name which it has since retained.

Having thus completed the object of his adventure, Zarco transmitted to his patron, Prince Henry, an history of all the circumstances of his voyage, describing, at the same time, the real state, condition, singular circumstances, and uncommon beauty of the island. He also submitted an opinion to his royal patron, that it would be impossible to clear the ground for any purposes of useful and advantageous cultivation, so as to render Madeira a beneficial colony to the mother country, but by diminishing the overwhelming woods, which could alone be done, with due and improving effect, by setting them on fire. This scheme Prince Henry

approved, and the conflagration is said to have lasted during several years. But, however that may be, the destruction of the trees must, at all events, have been prodigious, and there can be no doubt that the enormous quantity of ashes produced by such a combustion, wherever it extended, must have greatly enriched the soil, if it may not be said, in some measure, to have formed it; and that its present fertility may be traced to this terrific improvement.

Madeira being thus received and established, as a colonial addition to the dominions of Portugal, *João Gonsalves Zarco* was appointed, as he most deservedly merited, to the government of it. In consideration of his services, he was also advanced to the rank of nobility by his sovereign, Don John the First, who, as a further proof of his regard, and to give an added importance to the newly-acquired possession, sent three young noblemen of his palace to espouse Zarco's daughters, to whom he had granted ample tracts of land in the island; and from them are said to be descended the principal families of Madeira.

CLIMATE.

THE climate of Madeira is indebted for its boasted salubrity to the uniformity of its temperature; a regular succession of land and sea breezes cool and purify its atmosphere through the whole year, and especially during the hottest months: though even when the sun exerts a more than usual power, an advantage is possessed of changing the climate, by moving up the hills to a cooler situation.

During the summer months, the thermometer ranges, in the course of the day, from sixty-eight to seventy-six; its medium heat, in the shade, being from seventy-three to seventy-five. In winter it ranges from fifty-seven to sixty-five, its medium in the shade being from sixty to sixty-four; and during the colder season, it only drops below fifty-seven. It seldom rises above sixty-five, except during an occasional, but unfrequent, prevalence of easterly winds. The sirocco makes a short visit to the island, of a very few days, twice or thrice in the year, and then it rises in proportion. The hottest time of the day, during the whole year, is between the hours of one and three in the afternoon,—the coolest, for a short period, after midnight. During the whole day, the range of the thermometer will seldom, at any season, exceed two, or at most four, degrees;

and frequently, for several days together, the same degree of heat perseveres in an unchanged state.

Where such uniformity of temperature exists, combined with such purity of atmosphere, and where such a pleasing variety marks the climate, it may be expected that spring and autumn would compose the whole year, and form its general character; but excessive heat will sometimes tell of summer, and a severe storm will occasionally distinguish winter. The coldest months are January, February, and March; and the warmest are July, August, and September. The winter, however, is not so much distinguished by the increase of cold, as by the rains, which sometimes continue during several successive days and nights without intermission: but these watery visitations are hailed with joy by the labouring cottagers, as they tend to facilitate and reward the toil of cultivation. At this season, indeed, the mountains are, for a short time, covered with snow, when the ice-houses, which furnish one of the delicious luxuries of summer, are busily replenished. The weather will, of course, vary according to external circumstances; and one year, and the seasons of it, will be found to differ from another: but the picture here given of the climate of Madeira, will be found to answer, with no material deviation, to its prevailing character.

THE SOIL.

THAT this, like many other islands, has suffered various changes in different parts of it, from the impulse of subterranean fires and volcanic eruptions, is evident from its internal as well as exterior circumstances. The gaps in the mountains, the dark colour of the stones, and the lava mixed with the soil, are so many indications of volcanoes at remote periods,—existing marks are still visible. At *Antonio da Serra*, there is a crater about three-quarters of a mile in circumference, surrounded by lofty mountains covered with brushwood. Besides, not only lava, but strata of pumice, and scoria perfectly vitrified, every where abound. These and other marks of the action of fire are evident on the landing-place opposite the Loo Beech.

The soil of the island, it may be presumed, possessed, from self-evident causes, a most luxuriant state of fertility, and yielded the productions of nature, of the first quality and in the greatest abundance, especially towards the coast, where the surface displays a more level character. But from its early fertility it must be naturally supposed to have deviated, as it has been under a state of culture for upwards of four hundred years, with comparatively small assistance from the application of manure: Besides,

from the extreme steepness of some of the lands, the greatest part of the soil proper for vegetation has been carried off by the occasional torrents of rain.

The common soil is pumice-stone, of the consistence of soft-rock, mixed with a portion of clay, sand and marl, and also a dark-red earth, being a combination of the latter articles, but without any mixture of the pumice. Several of the smaller hills consist of a black or grey sand, a great portion of which is lava or scoriated substance. These varieties are adapted to the cultivation of the vine, but require some assistance from manure. It is a curious fact, that the lands which produce the best wine, are generally rather poor; hence it is evident how much depends on local situation. In some places near the river, is a black mould of a shingly nature; while on the flats, and at the bottom of declivities, as well as near the shore, there is a stiff clay. In some of the higher lands there is a kind of marl, mixed with layers of stone, which is very pulverizable, and soon decomposed. The last soil, when properly manured, answers well for various vegetables, and particularly the potato. The mountainous parts of the country, which the natives call *Serras*, are poor, meagre lands, from which is gained a scanty crop of rye, once only in six or seven years, when the soil has been improved by the ashes of the broom, which is encouraged to grow there to be burned upon it.

The rocks of Madeira consist chiefly of a blue stone, called by the natives *pedra viva*, something like our whin-

stone, but in reality lava. Of this there are several varieties. Of the free-stone, there are here two kinds in common use, the one of a hard, the other of a soft, nature: of the first there are two species, of which that only which is got in Estreito parish is used in the principal buildings, the other being, from the coarseness of its grain, too hard to work, and incapable of receiving a good polish. Of the second, there are also two kinds, which are distinguished from each other by their colours, the one being red and the other grey. They are both in principal use, and procured from *Labo Geram*, a few miles to the westward of *Funchal*, the capital of the island. There is indeed another kind of this stone at *Venta de Parga*, about twenty-eight miles to the west, which has the appearance of grey marble, and though little used, from the difficulty of transporting it, takes a very fine polish. In some parts of the island there is also a kind of lime-stone or *gypsum*, but at too great a distance to be used in *Funchal*, which is supplied with it from the island of *Porto Santo*.

VEGETABLE PRODUCTIONS.

It must be apparent, from this view of the climate and soil of Madeira, that it is capable of producing the fruits and vegetables of every part of Europe, if not of every quarter of the globe. Not only the tropical fruits, but even those of the north, arrive here at the utmost perfection.

According to the most authentic accounts, the island, when first discovered, was an entire forest, of which the predominant tree was the cedar, some of them of vast size, and covering the sea-shore with their immense shade; but the policy of the first settlers, applied the destructive element of fire, to produce the necessary space for future cultivation; so that this superb tree is rarely to be seen, but in the more interior and mountainous parts of the country. The pine is the tree more generally planted, as it thrives the best in the upper lands, flourishes in the poorest soil, where it attains a considerable size, and forms the most serviceable timber for general use. There is an admirable law for keeping a supply of wood in the island, if a due attention were paid to its enforcement, which is, to oblige every person who cuts down a tree, to plant another immediately in the place it occupied. The chesnut is in

great plenty, and grows into great luxuriance and beauty. It bears in vast abundance, and its fruit, which is of the finest kind, is a principal source of sustenance to the labouring classes, and forms a most essential substitute on any occasional dearth in the farinaceous articles of food. The walnut-tree also combines with the chesnut in clothing the hills, as well as in the quantity of its produce. The poplar is also of very general growth, and remarkable for retaining its verdure much longer than the same tree in Europe. The olive, orange, lemon and pomegranate trees may also be mentioned, with the laurel, the banana, myrtle, cypress, and others, which, if they are not valuable for their use, may be admired for their beauty. The *lignum klodium* also furnishes boards and planks for domestic and ornamental use, that vie in vein and colour with the mahogany to which the English eye is so accustomed. The aloe plant is also a common production, as well as that species of laurel from which the camphor is extracted.

The palm-tree rises to a great height, and though it flowers and bears fruit, never comes to perfection ; nor do the seeds, when planted, proceed to vegetation. Hence it is presumed by the naturalists, that the tree in Madeira must be a female, and that there is no male plant in the island by which it might be fecundated. Religion, however, applies to it for decoration, the branches of it, when dried, being employed, as in other Roman Catholic countries, to grace the solemnities of Palm-Sunday.

Besides the trees which flourish on the higher lands, the mountains are covered with various kinds of brushwood. Among these is the heath which attains a great size, the broom, and a kind of beech, called the *zayō*, and a species of bilberry. Among them the strawberry grows wild in great abundance, and continues ripe from March to July.

The vegetables which require the care of a garden, are of various kinds and, if attentively cultivated, might afford a plentiful supply throughout the year. Among these are the various kinds of culinary pulse, herbs, and roots. The yam, common and sweet potato, turnips, and onions, are very abundant. The yam is readily cultivated; and the potato has proved there, as it has done wherever it has been encouraged, a most useful article of food; and when cultivated with care is grown throughout the year. The onion attains a great degree of excellence; is of large size, and has not a particle of that acrimony which distinguishes the onion of northern climates. It possesses the admired mildness of the Portugal vegetable of the same name, from which it probably deduces its origin. It is so abundant in its produce as to be an object of exportation.

Of pot-herbs, which are familiar to the Madeira gardens, may be reckoned succory, fennel, water-cresses, samphire, beet, &c.; and, of the medicinal plants, there is common wormwood, maiden-hair, agrimony, winter-cherry, lavender,

mint, and its varieties; with sage, balm, rosemary, wild lily, daffodil, &c.

Of the flowers, it may be said that in beauty and fragrance they are unrivalled, and, in a great measure, are indebted for their superior attractions to nature alone. The *perpetua*, or everlasting flower, must not be forgotten. It is of two kinds; the one is of a bright yellow, and the other a beautiful purple; it grows and flowers like camomile; but its peculiarity consists in continuing to retain its living colours and shape after it has been gathered.

The northern tropical fruits are to be found here in great plenty, and might, with care, be brought to the greatest perfection; but whether the inhabitants are negligent or inactive, from their natural character, or are altogether contented with what nature does for them, without any exertions on their part to assist and improve her, it appears that their cultivation would admit of very considerable improvements, but still continues to remain unimproved. Most of the fruit trees here are of spontaneous growth; but too frequent blights occur to lessen, if not totally destroy, their produce.

Of the stone fruits, there are cherries, plumbs, peaches, nectarines, and apricots.

Of the apple tribe, the common apple, pear, medlar, quince, pine-apple, orange, lemon, lime, bergamot, pome-

granate, guava, and banana; nor should the fig be forgotten.

Of the small seeded fruits the principal are the strawberry, red and white currant, mulberry, gooseberry, bilberry, and the grape.

Of the farinaceous fruits, are the cucumber, the melon, and the pumpkin, the latter of which is used as a general article of food.

This island lays claim to its having been the first situation in the Western World, where the *arundo saccharifera*, or the sugar-cane, was cultivated. It most probably was introduced from the East soon after the island was discovered; but at what particular period, there are no existing means of ascertaining. From hence it was transplanted to the Brazils, and it is said to be owing to a most destructive blight that it ceased, in a great measure, to be cultivated here, when the vine succeeded and has continued to form the wealth of the island; but the small quantity of sugar that is still produced is uncommonly fine, and is said to emit an odour similar to that of the violet. Another account mentions that when the island was first colonized, Prince Henry of Portugal caused the sugar-cane to be transplanted hither from Sicily; and that at one time there were forty sugar-mills on the island, that article then forming the staple commodity. Now there is only one mill remaining; but in this description the excellence of the sugar and its odoriferous quality is confirmed. The discontinuance of

its cultivation, with what reason it is not here presumed to determine, has however been attributed to some particular policy, which is not generally known, or has long since been forgotten.

The vine was introduced into Madeira from the island of Cyprus, but at what period rests upon very dubious conjecture. It is not easy to reconcile the character of *Chaptal* for accuracy in his philosophical inquiries, when he mentions that, in the year 1420, vines were already planted in this island*. At all events there must be a confusion in the dates, as the island itself, according to the Portuguese historians, had been discovered only in the preceding year; and, if so, there could scarcely be a sufficient quantity of land cleared away to produce the common necessities of life, much less to plant vineyards; and if a conflagration of the woods which overspread the country, and lasted several years, as is generally related, was necessary to prepare the island for cultivation, a much later period must be referred to for introducing this fortunate plant into Madeira.

The present mode of cultivating it is from cuttings, in preference to the raising it from seed. The plough was

* This author thus mentions the circumstance in his antiquated French :
“ En 1240, plusieurs souverains de le Europ voulourunt obtenir de vins de liquer de vignes que croisent dans les territoires de leur domination, les Portugais avoient introduit dans L’Isle de Medere de plants de celle de Cypre dont le vin passoit alors pour le premiers de l’univers,” &c.

formerly employed, and a depth of earth from twelve to eighteen inches, as in France, was fully sufficient ; but, from various causes, the diminution of the woods, the variableness of the rains, proceeding from that circumstance, the more frequent droughts, and the exhaustion of the soil, a new system of culture has been necessarily introduced. The vine is now planted at the depth of from three to six feet, being protected from the hard ground at the bottom of the trench by a sufficient quantity of loose earth scattered as a bed there. A light, sandy, gravelly soil, is best suited to the growth of the vine, by admitting its roots to spread wider and draw a larger portion of nourishment.

Among the great variety of grapes produced in Madeira the following may be particularly mentioned. The Negro Mole—Verdelha—Bual Barterdo Preta—Boalerdo Branca—Babosa Tarantey—Neprinha—Marotta—Casuda Neprinha de Agoa de Mel—Lestrong Galija—Castelnaw—Bringo—Malvazia—Malvazia Rocho—Malvaziam—Sercial—Sercial Groça—Uva de Lisboa—Alicant—Preto—Alicante Branca—Ferral—Muscatel—Dodo de Dama, &c. &c. &c. But still it is supposed, on experienced authority, that if this great variety was reduced to the Negro Mole, the Verdelha, and the Bual, the wines would be of far superior quality.

From such a variety of grapes grown in this island, it might be concluded that each could be made to produce wine of its own specific character ; but, in general, the

different grapes are all mixed together in making that wine which exclusively bears the name of the island, except the Malmsey and Sercial grapes; the former affording a wine superior to any sweet wine*, and the latter another superior to any dry wine. The *Tinto* grape also gives a wine which has the flavour of Burgundy, but is commonly mixed with the other wines. There is one extraordinary kind, which is merely used as a dessert fruit, about the size of a muscle-plum, and the clusters are so large as sometimes to weigh twenty pounds.

The vines run on trellises of cane-work, about three feet from the ground, and the vintage begins early in the month of September; when the singular precaution is necessary to tie up all the dogs to prevent their getting at the grapes, of which those animals are voraciously fond. The rats, lizards, and wasps, are also great enemies to the ripened clusters.

* *Malmsey* has been long known as forming a luxurious beverage of the more opulent classes of England. It is frequently mentioned by Shakspeare, and is seen in all the accounts of ancient feasts, and in the household books of our great nobility in former times. In a butt of it, the Duke of Clarence is related, by our historians, to have been drowned; and, whether from any inspiring property it may possess, we shall not pretend to determine, but a certain portion of it is allowed as part of the annual stipend of the poet laureat. It was formerly brought from *Malvisia*, a town on the east coast of the *Morea*, from whence it derived its name: and from the grape originally transplanted from thence to Madeira, it is probable that the modern Malmsey is produced.

The process of making the wine is very simple. The grapes when cut, are immediately consigned to the press, which is a large wooden trough, not unlike the cider-press in England, over which is a large clumsy lever connected with other machinery. When the trough is nearly filled, the due number of bare-legged peasants, appointed for the purpose, enter the machine, and by the active tread of their feet, press out the juice, which runs into a vessel beneath. The husks or stalks are then collected and pressed with the lever, which pressure is occasionally extended to the fourth time. The best wine is said to be produced on the south side of the island, and when first made is as deep-coloured as port. It ferments for about six weeks after it is made.

There is some difference in the accounts given of the quantity of wine made in Madeira; but the most authentic average appears to be from *twenty-five* to *thirty thousand* pipes, the greater part of which is exported, and the rest is consumed in the island. It does not, however, attain its due state of perfection, till it has acquired a certain age in Madeira, or been transported to a warmer climate, and deposited there for a longer or shorter period. Hence has arisen the practice of sending such wines as are intended for British consumption a voyage to the West Indies, or round the East Indies, China and the Brazils; which experience has determined to be essential to their excellence.

The cultivation of the vine so entirely occupies the attention, and employs, as it increases, the wealth of the

inhabitants, that little thought is given to any other commercial concern. There has, however, been established, within the last few years, a small silk manufactory; but the raw article is imported; though, from the climate, and the great number of mulberry-trees which abound in the island, a sufficient quantity might be soon produced, to obviate the necessity of importation. There is also a manufacture of coarse linen and linsey-woolsey, and some coarse red earthen-ware, nor is there a deficiency on the island of smiths, paviours, carpenters, cabinet-makers, and other useful artisans.

ANIMALS.

MADEIRA is capable of affording a plentiful supply of cattle at all times of the year; and any failure of it is imputable to the negligence of the inhabitants, in not providing a sufficient quantity of dry fodder as a substitute when grass proves to be scarce. The beef is excellent during the summer when provender is abundant, and only fails from dry seasons and poverty of herbage. The mutton is not so well flavoured as in England, the sheep being, by no means, managed with equal care. The flesh of the kid, or young

goat, is here preferred to lamb, and the pork is not of a superior quality; though, in this climate, if proper attention were paid to their management, all the quadrupeds of Europe might be reared to advantage and brought to equal perfection as in the more northern regions.

Poultry is in the greatest abundance, and are easily reared, from the quantity of vegetables and fruit with which the country abounds. Of small birds, there is great variety, particularly canaries, chaffinches, and a grey bird, with a black head, which the natives call *Tinto Negro*, and is much admired for the melody of its note. There are also rock and wood-pigeons, quails, partridges, snipes, and wood-cocks. Wild rabbits are also in great abundance.

The Atlantic furnishes the island with abundance of excellent fish. Of the large kind are the *tao* fish, caught in deep water with the line; the grey and sur mullet, which are taken with the net; the *Salmoneto de alto*, a very scarce and delicate fish; the John Dory, Pargo, and Abrato or Nape, the piscado, anchovy, and tunny. Of small fish, the bays and harbours furnish, throughout the year, a never failing variety. Some, however, come in shoals, as the mackerel, pilchard, and mullet, at stated seasons of the year. The rapid course of the rivers is such as to admit of no other fresh-water fish but the eel. Of shell-fish, the lobster, crab, shrimp, cray-fish, limpet, and periwinkle, are very abundant. There is also a delicate fish, called by the natives *Craco*, and the hawks-

bill turtle, which are in great plenty at certain seasons. The latter, when of a proper size, and kept for some time previous to its being dressed, is considered as nearly equal, when duly prepared by culinary skill, to the green species.

The breed of horses is small, but not destitute of beauty and strength ; and have all the useful properties of that serviceable animal.

The land-owners do not manage their farms, but appoint certain portions to be cultivated, which the tenant engages to do at his own expense, receiving half the produce, whatever it may be, more or less, for his labour. When cattle are given out to graze, their value is estimated according to their condition, and when they are received back again by the owner, from the hands of the grazier, they are again valued, and he receives half the increased value as the remuneration for his care.

THE PEOPLE OF MADEIRA.

THE native inhabitants, more particularly the labouring classes, are of a more dark and swarthy complexion, than those of the colder climates of Europe; for which, it is probable, they may be indebted to a Mulatto or Moorish origin, in common with the natives of the parent branch of the peninsula, from which they are derived. It is only a few of the first families, who bear any the least resemblance in complexion, to the fair inhabitants of northern Europe; and this difference may be traced to a superior extraction. These islanders are generally of a middle stature, but athletic, well limbed, active, and of great muscular strength, which renders them capable of sustaining the greatest fatigue; so much so, that they are often reduced to an emaciation of body, and debility of constitution, which brings on a premature old age. Though long life appears to be, otherwise, among the privileges which nature seems disposed to confer on them. The peasantry are sober, economical, and not merely inoffensive in their manners, but of dispositions the most courteous towards strangers, as among themselves. When they meet one of the latter, they take off their cap, and "hope the Lord will prosper him;" and when they meet each other, they stand cap in hand, with ceremonious politeness, though under a perpendicular sun, and the reflected heat of a

rock, till they have satisfied each other, as to the welfare of their wives, children, relatives, acquaintance, cattle, domestic animals, &c.; and it is a point of ceremony not immediately to be settled, which of the friendly, social party, shall first return the cap to its appropriate situation.

The higher classes, on the contrary, are inclined to corpulence, as they are inactive and indolent, which may be one cause of it; and this disposition is attended with a temper somewhat morose, and a tendency to melancholy. Though sober, in respect to their libations to Bacchus, the presiding divinity of the island, they frequently indulge their appetite to excess in the luxury of the table. From this circumstance, with the sedentary life to which they habituate themselves, they become subject to chronic disorders, which are followed by the debilities of premature old age.

The youth, or at least, the bloom and gaiety of female life, is also greatly shortened, by early marriages and numerous offspring. The mothers have often from six to twelve children, whom they generally suckle; a duty which they often protract beyond the period that nature requires, even for two or three years. Their sedentary life, to which custom assigns them, is also unfavourable to health; for, except in the summer months, they seldom stir out, but to attend their devotions; or, in a moonlight night, when they proceed in form and accompanied by their attendants. To these habits, so unfavourable to a comfortable state of health, may be added, their rigid abstemiousness from

animal food on the fast days, which are very numerous, and the whole season of Lent. Nor do their amusements, such as dancing, music, &c., seem sufficient to alleviate the unhealthy consequences of habitual indolence, a relaxing climate, and the severities of religious discipline.

The temper of the Portuguese is rather of an impetuous character, and subject to violent impulses of an anger, which is sometimes provoked by the most trifling occurrence. The practice of assassination, however, the stigma of the Portuguese nation, is very rare in Madeira: when it does happen, it is always found to have taken place among the inferior classes; and is entirely confined to themselves, as they are never known to do an injury of any kind to strangers. Indeed, no nation is more generally characterized for elegant and courteous manners, particularly to strangers than the Portuguese; and Madeira seems to participate, in a pre-eminent degree, these ingratiating virtues of the mother country.

FUNCHAL, &c., DESCRIBED.

THIS place, the capital of the Madeiras, is situated at the foot of a lofty range of mountains, forming a magnificent amphitheatre, on the south side of the island. It seems to have been the decided opinion of all who have visited this bay, that its prospect possesses uncommon beauty, while the city is a very striking feature of the whole. It contains about twenty thousand inhabitants, which is considered as the fifth part of the population of the island. It stretches on to a considerable length, surrounded by luxuriant vineyards, and enlivened by groves of the orange, lemon, pomegranate, myrtle, cypress, and other trees of various foliage. The numerous villas that are scattered about the environs, may be supposed to add, in no small degree, to the charm of the scene.

The landing-place of the island is to the north-west of the Loo rock, where steps are formed to ascend to the top of it, which communicate with the road to Funchal. It is very rough and narrow, with a low wall on either side, and leads to a high ascent; to which succeeds a declivity, whereon is a small church, whose situation baffles description. Its position commands an extensive view of the sea, with Porto Santo, and the Deserter's Island; overlooking, at the same time, the charming vineyards in its more

immediate vicinity. Many delightful gardens are seen on either side of the road, abounding in a variety of delicious fruits; while, on the north, vineyards stretch away to the extremity of the rock, which possesses a perpendicular height of several hundred feet above the sea.

About half-a-mile beyond the church, is the entrance to the city, when a narrow street, of no very inviting appearance, leads to a public walk, which has a central avenue of orange and other trees, with lamps placed between them: the whole is terminated by the cathedral church, a large Gothic edifice, fitted up in a manner suited to the ceremonial worship of that religion to which it is consecrated. On the other sides of this esplanade, is a Franciscan convent, with a marble fountain of the finest water. The other parts of this public walk are occupied by a commodious hospital, and a theatre.

In a corner of the Franciscan convent, is a small chamber which, though, from its dismal furniture, it may not invite a visit from the gay or the cheerful, may induce the curious to examine such an arrangement of mortality. Its ceilings and walls are completely covered with human skulls and thigh bones, placed in such a manner, as to form a kind of triangle, with a skull fixed in the points. A figure of St. Francis is represented as balancing a saint and a sinner, to ascertain which is the heaviest. From the ceiling is suspended a small lamp, calculated to give sufficient light to display a scene, which might as well be consigned to utter darkness. The number of these bones is calculated at

upwards of three thousand. For what rational purpose they are thus curiously preserved, it is idle to inquire; and for what object of superstition, none but the superstitious will pretend to determine.

Funchal possesses several handsome churches, whose altars are not deficient in the splendour that forms a part of papal devotion.

There are on the island, about twelve hundred secular clergy, under the spiritual government of a dean, chapter, and bishop.

There is also in the outskirts of the town, a small hospital for lepers; and, from the prevailing number of beggars, which had become a public nuisance, an extensive asylum for the destitute, upon the plan of such charities in England, has been in contemplation, of which Senhor João Carvalhal, a name synonymous to benevolence, has undertaken to be president and treasurer: under such auspices, the most beneficial effects are expected to be derived from it.

The residence of the governor is called the Palace of Fort St. Lawrence. It is a large, ancient building; and, some years since, was greatly improved by the addition of a new suite of apartments, built under the direction of an English gentleman, which are both elegant and commodious. The hall, or grand entrance, is a fine room, containing portraits of the different governors of the island, and a number of wretched pictures, for they cannot be

otherwise described, representing the story of the unfortunate lovers, whose affecting story has already been told, the devoted Robert Machin, and the lovely Anna D'Arfet.

The bishop's palace is a very large building, and answers to the character of an episcopal residence.

Except in these official houses, that of the British Consul, and those of the Portuguese gentry and British merchants, glass is not in constant use. Lattice windows are more generally seen, with balconies before them, where the ladies enjoy the opportunity, and, it may be added, the pleasure, of seeing and being seen.

The town is not regularly built; on the contrary, the streets are generally narrow and crooked, and without any accommodation for foot passengers: nor are they without the inconvenience attendant upon unequal ground and frequent declivities; they have, however, the advantage of those of Lisbon, the being preserved in a tolerable state of cleanliness.

Several rivers run through the town, which, in summer, are nearly dried up; but, in the rainy season, convey floods from the mountains. Indeed, such was the impetuosity of the torrents, on the 13th of October, 1803, that a most tremendous injury was sustained by the city of Funchal, and its inhabitants. It carried away not only vineyards, but houses, and, incredible as it may appear, even entire streets, into the sea. In that dreadful calamity, seven hun-

dred human beings are believed to have perished. Such additional securities, however, have now been formed, and contrived against inundations, that the city is not likely to suffer again from a similar catastrophe.

Funchal, towards the sea-side, is protected by a parapet wall, called the Musquetry Parapet. The fortifications consist of a castle, erected upon a steep rock, on the west side of the harbour, and is within a few yards of the shore. This fort returns the salute of the different vessels of war, anchoring in the roads, and serves as a state-prison. The Loo-fort is very high, and perpendicular on all sides: the only entrance to it, is by a narrow flight of steps, hewn out of the rock, and properly guarded.

Fort St. Jago is situated on the south side of the harbour, and mounts sixteen guns.

The Peak-Castle is built on an eminence, behind the town, which it completely commands, and forms a very striking object. There are some smaller batteries; and, in the whole, they mount about seventy pieces of artillery, fit for service.

About three miles from the town, up the country, is a very handsome church, called *Nossa Senhora do Monte*, in which are some scripture paintings, and a fine organ, with other decorations suited to the character of the place. The image of the patron saint is preserved with the most devout care, in a glass case, on the great altar. She is about two

feet in height, dressed in a flaxen wig, and decorated with a profusion of gold chains and precious stones, which, at different periods, have been the pious offerings of wealthy devotees.

After the destructive flood in the year 1803, this image was brought into the town, with the greatest possible pomp and solemnity, being attended by the principal clergy, the military, in their best array, and the civil authorities, as there was no doubt of her presence proving a certain, and, indeed, providential protection against any further deluge; and, after being received with the celebration of all due honours, and remaining some months in the cathedral, she was returned to her own altar, with all the solemnity with which she had been conducted to the city; as the church dedicated to her, was built on the spot where, according to the monkish legends, she was originally found, soon after the first discovery of the island *.

* Among the numerous miracles which this sacred figure is said to have performed, one of the most curious and extraordinary may be here related:—At the time when a great scarcity prevailed in Madeira, occasioned by the vigilance of the British cruisers, during the revolutionary war with America, from whence the island is principally supplied with some, even of its very necessary articles, supplication was made to the *Lady of the Mount*, accompanied with a public procession, and other devotional rites, in all their form, to obtain her powerful intercession, to avert the increasing distress: when, on the following morning, at day-break, a ship was discovered; which proved to be laden with wheat from Portugal; and, on repairing to the *Mount Church*, they found the saint's clothes dripping wet; which, on being examined by the priests, was pronounced to be sea-water. The conclusion drawn from this circumstance was, that she had taken a trip to sea during

Pilgrimages are daily made to her shrine : and the sailor, who is accustomed to danger, and laughs at fear, is seen to ask for added security against the perils of the sea, which he devoutly believes that she can afford him. It is the custom for sailors, after they have landed safely on the island, to go about the streets begging alms, in order to pay the clergy for saying masses in their behalf, at her altar. An entire crew, headed by their captain, are to be seen, trudging barefoot up the steep road that leads to the church of *Nossa Senhora do Monte*, carrying their topsails with them in procession, accompanied by an appraiser, who, in the presence of some priest belonging to the church, affixes a value on the sails : the value, being thus determined, is paid into the hands of the holy man, to defray the expense of celebrating masses, in favour of the vessel to which the sails belong, at the shrine of the saint.

Besides these occasional ceremonies, the patron is honoured by an annual festival, which celebrates the foundation of the church, and lasts from the fourth to the fifteenth of August. During this period the church is decorated with flags of every nation. Masses are performed with all possible solemnity. Music, illuminations,

the night, to hasten the arrival of the vessel in question. The sailors were astonished when, on their arrival, they heard of the miracle ; but afterwards recollected that, being becalmed off the island, just after sun-set, the preceding evening, they saw something white ascend from the waves, which hovered about their vessel, and immediately they felt her impelled towards Funchal : the miracle was thus confirmed, and is an article of faith among the natives at this day.

and fire-works, occupy their proper seasons ; and all parts of the island send their inhabitants to enjoy the festivity ; on the last day of which the blended spirit of devotion and pleasure is sometimes known to assemble twenty thousand persons.

The ascent to this church is by a very steep, but well-paved road ; and the strangers who visit Madeira are always induced to visit a charming spot, surrounded by groves of the finest chestnut, and commanding, at the same time, the interior beauties of a country so abounding in the varieties of landscape, with the vast world of waters by which it is surrounded.

The towns or villages, of which there are several, are generally situated on the sea-coast ; and the highest gratification of the natives are the church festivals and religious processions ; but, though they admit of little variety, the show they display, and the festivity they allow, being, in a great measure, all that is to be seen or enjoyed, it becomes the object of all to see and enjoy them. Besides, on these occasions, the devout gratify their piety, and the penitent obtain pardon for their offences.

It is the custom here to bury the dead within twenty-four hours after their demise. They bear the body on an open bier to the place of interment, with the face and arms exposed to full view, attended by a concourse of priests and friars, chanting a funeral dirge : then follow the friends of the deceased ; and the procession is closed by a

motley tribe of beggars bearing torches. When the body is consigned to the grave, a quantity of lime and vinegar is thrown in to consume it, in order to make room for others, as the church itself is the exclusive place of interment. If relatives were to attend funerals it would be considered as a mark of indifference; and widows, in the higher stations of life, never cross the threshold for twelve months after the death of their husbands.

It is only since the year 1770 that the Portuguese have withdrawn their uncharitable regulations, relative to the burial of Protestants. Previous to that period, their dead bodies were thrown into the sea. At Funchal a handsome chapel is now building, which, however, is not to be allowed a steeple or bells. They have, also, a burial-ground, in which are seen several handsome monuments to the memory of British subjects, who sought in vain the salubrious climate of Madeira.

From the change that has taken place in the affairs of Europe, the increased demand for the wines of this island has so far advanced the property of its inhabitants as to cause a total change in their mode of life, manners, and exterior appearance, both as to their persons and dwellings, some of which display European elegance and accommodation; though for these, and the garden embellishments, the owners of them are, in no small degree, indebted to the taste and experience of the English.

The country is too uneven for wheel-carriages, except

in the town and its immediate vicinity. The mode of travelling, therefore, is confined to the horse, the mule, and the palanquin, which will be described hereafter.

There are several delightful rides within the environs of Funchal, to a very pretty marine village, about four miles west of the town, called Carme de Lobos; or to the eastward to the villages of Carrico, Santa Cruz, or Machico, where is still exhibited the CEDAR CROSS, erected by the pious affection of the unfortunate Machin, whose fate has given him what may be distinguished as a sentimental immortality. There are still shorter rides to the Mount Church, or round by St. Antonio, St. Amaro, and St. Martinho; or to the Púlheiro dos Ferreiros, a place abounding with paradisiacal beauties, and belonging to a gentleman, who, by his taste, his virtues, and the benevolent employment of a large fortune, is formed, as he proves, to create a paradise for others as well as for himself. He encourages every thing that can be beneficial or ornamental to his native island. His noble domain and charming gardens abound with scenery that baffles description, and whose decorations require that language to portray, which, though here it would be truth, fancy might think she had a right to claim as her own exclusive region. This gentleman is Mr. JOHN DE CARVALHAL. His place is the first that attracts the eye of the stranger, and will well reward the most minute attention with the native beauty of Switzerland, and the delicious charm of the garden scenery of England.

There are also several other country-houses, which are

perfect in their kind. Among these are, the Mount, belonging to Mr. Webster Gordon; the Palmyra, to Mr. Blackburn; the Quinta de Trasir, to Mr. Page; the Askada, to Mr. Penfold; and the Til, to Mr. Gordon. There are also two pretty places, *now belonging to Mr. Logan* the property of Mr. Wardrop, and the beautiful garden of Mr. Keir; besides various other improvements which are daily appearing.

There is another very agreeable place, about fourteen miles east of Funchal, called St. Antonio de Serra. It is a very commodious house, originally built by government, solely for the reception of travellers going to the north of the island, but has been much enlarged by private contribution. A chapel forms a part of it, where a priest constantly resides; and any respectable person, or party, who may choose to enjoy a cool climate and level country, which its situation commands, can go and live there, rent free, as long as they please. In the description given of this caravansera, its regulation, if strictly adhered to, will add greatly to the comfort of those who occasionally resort to it, and prevent it from being, for any great length of time, without inhabitants; as it is said that the clergyman who resides there is generally chosen for his social disposition, the liberality of his mind, and ample source of information.

The manners of the higher classes of the inhabitants of Madeira, both native and English, appear to live in the pleasing remembrance of those who, from different causes, have made a longer or shorter residence among them. This declaration, at least, is due to the hospitality of

the island*. English fashions, which may, in some degree, lead to English manners, or, at least, to a slight infusion of them, are said to have become objects of imitation.

Most of the commercial characters on the island are English, and form establishments of high character and respectability. They and their families, clerks and servants, with the invalids who come in search of health from the salubrity of the climate, form the whole body of British subjects who are resident in Madeira.

Invalids, generally such as are consumptive, are frequently arriving here in search of health; and many who have sought this climate, in an early stage of their disorder, have completely recovered. A more desirable spot for consumptive and asthmatic patients, uniting such numerous advantages, cannot any where be found; the town of Funchal being situated in a valley open only to the south, while it is completely defended by the mountains rising behind from those northern blasts, so unfavourable in cases of decline. The temperature of the atmosphere is also so equable, the thermometer being seldom higher than from 75 to 78 in summer, and rarely below 65 in winter. Indeed, it is to be regretted that the visit to it is so often deferred till the disease is too confirmed to admit of a cure.

* Lord Macartney, who stopped a few days at Madeira in his voyage to China, always mentioned with peculiar pleasure, the superior elegance, and most accomplished politeness, with which he was received, and entertained in this island.

It may here prove highly useful to introduce the opinion of a physician, whose acknowledged skill, long residence in the island, and coequal experience, must give great weight to it, on the subject of that complaint, (the consumption,) to which a visit to Madeira, under his directions, promises such a beneficial result.

“ Madeira, from its uniformity of temperature and purity of atmosphere, has long been, and still continues to be, the favourite retreat of consumptive patients from the northern parts of Europe. Here the unhappy sufferers, under this formidable disease, cheat the winter of their own climate, and gain that cessation of suffering which such a situation is calculated to produce. It is from the itinerant patients, who have been ordered here from Great Britain, these ideas of this melancholy disease have been drawn, and the experience of its treatment founded. In these patients it appeared, that the disorder is of that species which arises from tubercles, and is connected with scrofula, or else is accompanied with a faulty conformation of the chest. Before such patients repair to this *last haven of health*, their malady is unfortunately, in too many cases, in its last stage, when neither change of climate, nor any remedy whatever, can be of service. It would be well, therefore, if the physicians of such patients were to recommend a change of temperature in the first stage of the malady, where the tubercle is yet in the inflammatory state, or where, if supuration has taken place, it is still in a slight degree, and the lungs have suffered little derangement in their structure and functions. It is then, and then only, a change of climate

will be truly beneficial. Besides, the advantage of the voyage itself can only be reaped by those who are able to bear its inconveniencies, and not by the worn-out victim of suffering, sinking under the last symptoms of emaciation and debility. Though winter in Great Britain is carefully to be avoided by the consumptive, summer is by no means unfavourable to the complaint. The proper period, therefore, of such patients departing from their native shore is the month of October, and under all circumstances in Madeira, the fittest season for invalids is from November to the beginning of June. This was, also, the opinion of the late Doctor Cullen, who, in his lectures on this disease, was used to observe, in directing a change of climate, that it was as pernicious for phthisical patients to pass the summer in a very warm climate, such as Madeira, as to remain in England in winter; and, indeed, that the most benign climate in such cases was found in the south of England, and in the winter of southern latitudes*, &c., &c.

It may not here be improper to mention, that the most comfortable accommodations may be obtained at Funchal that house-rent is very moderate, as there are no taxes or poor's rates; and that not only the necessaries of life, but even its luxuries, would be considered as reasonable by the British visitor.

Of medical assistance there is no deficiency. So late as the

* See *Observations on the History, Climate, and Diseases of Madeira*, by Dr. Gourlay, physician to the British Factory in that island.

year 1819, there were four native Portuguese physicians, three of whom had studied in the University of Edinburgh, and one in France; a native of Norway, educated in London, and a physician from Scotland, who had practised on the island during forty years.

Where vegetables and fruits are in such plenty and so excellent, and the milk is so delicious; when the fish and poultry are of such superior quality, the invalid will want nothing, in the way of food, that is suited to the character of his disease, and the peculiarities of his condition. The palanquins are delightful conveyances to those, whose situation will only admit of the most easy motion; while such as are susceptible of more active exercise, horses are ready for their use at all hours of the day. To those who are fond of fishing and water amusements, the delightful Bay of Funchal affords every gratification. It is to be regretted that there is no public library to assist the irksome hours of the valetudinarian; but every English family has, more or less, its private collection of books; and kindness and hospitality to strangers are among the virtues of those who are the residing inhabitants of Funchal. There are no public evening amusements; but such as can attend billiard-tables have the opportunity of enjoying the pastime which they afford. Till the church, now building by the English, is finished, the service is performed on all due occasions in the house of the consul by a clergyman of the establishment, who is supported by the English residents.

When the small extent of the place is considered, the

English society may be regarded as rather numerous, and is annually increasing. It is larger in winter, on account of the arrival of invalids; and, in the summer, the town is naturally deserted for the country, whose beauties invite the owners of so many charming retirements to the enjoyment of them. The sea-bathing is sufficiently commodious for the gentlemen; but accommodations have not yet been provided for the ladies. The roads are in a state of increasing improvement, to which the governor has paid great attention as well as to other local advantages, by which the island will be greatly benefited. The higher ranks of Portuguese very generally speak French, and most of them understand English. At the head of the English society is the consul, to whom the interests of the nation which he represents, whether generally or individually, as connected with the appointed place of his residence, is intrusted.

REVENUE, POLICY, MISCELLANEOUS
CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE revenue which the Portuguese government derives from the island is in duties on imports and exports 82,500*l.*, and from farming out crown-lands and tithes 55,000*l.*, of which one-third is remitted home on government account, and the remaining two-thirds is expended in paying a battalion of infantry and artillery, keeping the fortresses in repair, securing the town from the rivers, paying the salaries of the public functionaries, supporting the clergy, and defraying the expenses of a small academy for drawing and painting, &c.

The governor, in the year 1819, was styled Florencio Joze Correa de Mello, of the council of the king our lord, lieutenant-general of his royal army, commander in the order of St. Bento de Alviz, governor and captain-general of the islands of Madeira, Porto Santo, &c. &c. His power is represented as uncontrolled in the seat of his government, his official revenue is two thousand pounds sterling per annum, with the addition of an annual payment of two hundred pounds from the English factory.

The income of the bishop was double that of the governor; and indeed it appears that the provision of the clergy is

upon a larger scale, than that of any other of his faithful majesty's subjects*.

Of the laws and political system by which the government of this island is now administered, description is obliged to hesitate, as the mother country is at the present moment influenced by the revolutionary principle to change the fashion and form of its constitution, in which all its subordinate parts must participate; and, as far as Madeira has been affected by it, the following account, whose accuracy may be depended on, will sufficiently illustrate.

The government, as it has been stated in a foregoing page, was altogether despotic, and vested in the hands of a governor, appointed for three years, though sometimes continued for a longer period; a corregidor, who presided over civil and criminal judicature; a treasurer, or receiver-general of the public revenues; and a junta, or senate, consisting of the governor as president, and the superior island functionaries. A change, however, has now taken place, which immediately succeeded the intelligence of the revolutionary proceedings at Lisbon, and the projected scheme of giving a new system of government to the kingdom of Portugal.

On the 28th day of January, 1821, the people here demanded a new constitution, after the example of Lisbon;

* See *An Historical Sketch of the Island of Madeira*, published in London in 1819.

and the same scene, in a certain degree, took place in the capital of the island of Madeira, which had already been acted in that of the mother country.

Certain individuals, not more than six in number, prepared an address to the governor, demanding the new constitution. It was strengthened, however, by about six hundred signatures, including those of the greater part of the artillery and militia officers, but unsupported by any of the principal fidalgos, or persons of property. This deputation in all due form and ceremony waited on the governor, and demanded his immediate concurrence with their demands. The moment this sudden measure was known, all was bustle and anxious confusion. Guns were immediately brought down to resist the design, and control the actors in it; but the governor, finding that he was deserted by the larger part of the troops, did not attempt to oppose the wish of the people, but expressed a readiness to resign his government. This design was over-ruled; and his appearance on the battlements being the signal of his compliance with the general wish, he was received with successive shouts from the guards, the militia, and a large concourse of the people below; and the ladies from the windows joined in the general congratulation, while the guns from the batteries proclaimed the revolutionary change. That and the two following days were distinguished by general rejoicings and brilliant illuminations, and each night the theatre was open to the public.

Three deputies were despatched to Lisbon with an account

of what had taken place, from the governor and senate; while the packet was despatched to the Brazils with an official information of the event. In due time, however, news arrived, that the king had accepted the constitution, when some disturbances followed. Among others, the market-place was destroyed, as well as a chapel then building in the room of one which had formerly stood there.

On the 21st of February, a counter-revolution, which had been secretly meditated, was to have exploded in the theatre in favour of the bishop, who was to have been proclaimed governor, and to unite in himself the civil and ecclesiastical power. The other constitutional authorities were to have been dissolved, and to be supplied by new appointments.

This conspiracy, however, was discovered in the course of the afternoon; and the theatre being, in the evening, possessed by the military, no mischievous or violent consequences ensued. On the following day, a council of upwards of a hundred persons was convened at the castle, when it was unanimously voted, that the bishop should be immediately embarked for Portugal, which determination was communicated to him by nine of the first persons of the island. An English schooner was instantly engaged for this voyage, and sailed that evening with the exiled prelate. Two military officers were commissioned to deliver him to the supreme government at Lisbon. A few refractory individuals were imprisoned on the occasion; but, by the firm and determined conduct of the military, quiet was soon restored.

The island, in the new state of things, is to send deputies to the Cortes, who are to be elected in the same manner as in Portugal. The change has already been productive of some advantages to the people; certain taxes have been diminished, and the pay of the soldiery has been increased. The laws promise to be more impartially administered; and the people appear to be universally satisfied with the promised system of government.

The envoys, who were sent to Lisbon to announce the compliance of Madeira with the new constitution, were received with all due honours; and the conduct of the islanders was highly approved. Every thing there bears at present the marks of private ease and public satisfaction.

The current coin in Madeira consists of Spanish dollars, pistareens, bits, and half-bits.

Porto Santo is a small island subject to Madeira, and at no great distance from it. The Portuguese navigators who discovered it fell in with it in a storm; and gave it its present name on account of the protection it afforded. It is about fifteen miles in circumference, and mountainous. It possesses no harbours, but has a large bay, wherein ships may be tolerably secure, except when the wind blows from the southwest, and which is frequented by British Indiamen, outward and homeward bound. It produces corn, cattle, and rabbits, and some accounts mention that its woody parts are inhabited by wild-boars. Among its productions are also dragon's-blood, honey, and wax.

The Isla Deserta is a barren rock, to which fishermen occasionally resort: it serves also as a prison for criminals, who there pay the penance of their offences by various kinds of labour.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, &c.

WINE is the only article exported from Madeira*, except a small comparative quantity of citrons, which chiefly find a sale in the American market. Onions and walnuts are also occasionally sent to the West Indies.

The imports from Great Britain are almost all kinds of British manufactures, which pay fifteen per cent., *ad valorem*. From Newfoundland, cod-fish; from the United States of America, flour, Indian corn, or maize, rice, boards, staves, &c.

On beef, butter, biscuit, cheese, coffee, chocolate, hams, lard, and pork, the duties are three per cent.

* It pays an export duty of 2*l.* 10*s.* per pipe.

On anchors, cordage, flax, hemp, iron hoops, staves, and packs, thirteen per cent.

On bees'-wax, boards, brandy, candles, moulds, wax and spermaceti,—coals, gin, iron pots and bars,—leather, lime, malt liquor, molasses, nankeens,—oil, sweet, train, and linseed,—paints and pitch,—teas, tar, tin and tallow, twenty-three per cent.

Barley, pulse, rice, and grain of every sort, as well as flour and fish, are imported duty free.

By a new regulation at the Madeira custom-house the merchant, in clearing goods from thence, is obliged to exhibit the invoices, which are generally compared with the English custom-house cockets. They translate the invoices in a book kept for that purpose. Each custom-house store has an officer appointed to take a regular account of every package despatched; and the collector is obliged to give a weekly account to government of what are entered and cleared.

Many vessels, particularly from the port of London, get into difficulties at the custom-house in Madeira, by having articles for that island and other places mixed together in the custom-house cockets: they cannot be too particular in this point, as, at the Portuguese consul's office, they are frequently tacked together, and marked, "*Carga para á Madeira;*" cargo for Madeira. To this the consular seal is affixed, and the consequence is, when the

vessel arrives at Madeira, the whole of the goods specified in the said cockets must be landed and pay *franquia* duty, or a penalty of forty-eight per cent. on their amount ; although bills of lading, and the captain's oath, that they were *bonâ fide* not intended for Madeira, may be brought forward in proof.

PORT REGULATIONS.

ON entering Funchal Roads, no vessel can have communication with the shore or shipping in port, until visited by a boat, bearing the Portuguese flag, which carries off the government visitors and health officers.

The master, purser, and other persons, coming in the first boat from any vessel, must land at the health office, close by the lofty pillar on the beach, where their papers are examined, and they undergo the necessary interrogations : they should then proceed to the consul's office, and report their arrival.

Captains and pursers so landing must bring with them the vessel's register, Mediterranean pass, manifest of the cargo,

and, above all, a bill of health; for if the latter document is wanting, however needless and unnecessary, they will be liable to a medical survey, which is equally tedious and expensive.

No vessel lying in port can have any communication with one that is coming in, or that has already anchored, until such new comer has been regularly visited.

No vessel at anchor can change her birth without a license from government.

All boats that pass between the shipping and the shore are liable to pay two shillings for a government license.

No seaman or soldier to leave his ship, without a written permission from the captain or commanding officer.

Any seaman or soldier found on shore, after sun-set, without written leave of absence, is liable to be taken up by the military patrol, and kept in custody, until claimed and sent on board his ship, which, exclusive of his maintenance, consisting of merely bread and water, occasions an expense of two dollars for each individual so taken up; and, even with the requisite permission, any disorderly conduct is immediately noticed and punished; and, as the fine is a premium to the patrol, they are proportionably vigilant to obtain it.

All captains and commanding officers will naturally

consider it to be an object of their careful attention, to read to the sailors and soldiers on board their ships the two preceding articles, and enjoin a strict attention to them.

No vessel is to carry from Madeira, any person or persons, excepting those who came in her, without a regular passport; as, in case of detection in making such an attempt, the master is liable to a fine of one hundred dollars, and three months' imprisonment.

In cases where the captain of a vessel shall be judicially notified not to carry any particular person or persons from the island, and he does, notwithstanding, receive him or them on board, he becomes liable for all debts such persons may owe.

When vessels are ready to depart, the captain must, through his consul or consignee, apply to government, to have its visitor sent on board, at the hour when they will be ready to proceed to sea; and, after the vessel has been visited for the purpose of proceeding on her voyage, if any circumstance should require her to have communication with the shore, or the shipping in port, she cannot sail until visited a second time; when an additional expense is, of course, incurred.

No vessel can sail after sun-set, without special license; and in case a ship is visited for departure, and finds she is obliged, from intervening circumstances, to wait another

night, she will not be allowed to sail, till she has been again visited.

As vessels are frequently fired at from the Loo, for attempting to anchor after sun-set, it is advisable for those who make the port too late to cast an anchor before that time, to stand off and on to windward till day-light, when the restriction ceases: and they should always, as soon as they make the road-sted, hoist their colours, and their consignee's private signal.

Any vessel, attempting to get away before she is visited, will be fired at from the forts; and be subject to additional charges.

No commander of a vessel can leave any of his crew behind, excepting those who may be in the hospital, without first giving to the consul security for his subsistence.

As the greatest attention is necessary on the part of masters of vessels, for the benefit of those concerned, it will be found much to the interest of all parties, that they by no means sleep on shore; a caution which is peculiarly necessary during the winter season.



Inside of a Cottage.

THE INTERIOR OF A COTTAGE.

THE cottages in Madeira, the habitations of the labouring peasantry, are built of stone, with roofs composed of thatch, which are annually thickened with the same material, in order to render them more impervious to the heavy rains of the winter season. They consist, generally, of one room, which is subservient to every domestic purpose. Here the victuals are cooked, and the household occupations pursued during the day; while, at night, it is divided by a curtain or straw mat, to answer the purpose of sleep. Their culinary furniture seems to be confined to a very few articles. The principal of these is a large iron pot, in which their food is prepared, which does not offer any abundant variety, as it consists chiefly of a kind of porridge composed of rice and Indian corn. Sometimes indeed, though it is considered as a luxury, not being often seen on the cottage table, the rural people enjoy a meal of salt pork or salted fish.

Religious duties occupy much, if not the greater part, of the leisure that labour can spare them. The picture of their tutelary saint is seen in a conspicuous part of their dwelling, and to gain whose protecting favour, their prayers are seldom omitted, when the opportunity offers to repeat them. The rosary is also a constant associate of

their intervals from labour, and the more public exercises, as demanded by the church, are constant objects of habitual devotion.

O welcome ! thou refreshing guest,
 After labour, welcome rest,
 That does the wearied limbs sustain
 To renew their toil again !
 Welcome the housewife's busy cares
 Which the wholesome meal prepares,
 That for the young, the old, for all,
 Answers the universal call
 Of parent Nature, and is given
 By the bounteous will of Heaven
 Who bids the water and the field,
 In every clime, its plenty yield.
 Here labour, while with toil oppress'd,
 Sleeps till its strength'ning food is dress' ;
 Or beads are told, in gratitude,
 To the great Author of all good—
 The silent task of pious age.
 —Thus we describe the painted page.



Rural Toil.

RURAL OCCUPATION.

THE weather in Madeira is generally so fine, that the peasants are seldom seen in the cottages, when their occupations allow them to be in the open air. The young woman, as represented in the plate, is engaged in spinning from the distaff, which is usually employed in warm countries, as it is not confined, like the spinning-wheel, to a sedentary situation, but may be exercised either standing or walking. Thus it is frequently used by the shepherdess while she is tending her flock, and is not an uncommon object in the landscapes of the Italian painters. The old woman appears to be winding thread from the reel into balls. The banana-tree, rising behind her, grows here in great plenty ; and the turkey, a figure which seems to enliven the picture, is of some consequence, that fowl being supposed to attain an higher degree of perfection, as a table luxury, in this island than in any other part of the world ; while the flavour of its flesh is in proportion to the size it acquires.

The old woman must be considered as having attained a very advanced age, being represented with spectacles, as the natives generally retain the blessing of sight to the latest period of life ; which is the more extraordinary, as they are constantly exposed to the dazzling rays of a burning sun. They also generally reach the term of

seventy or eighty years, without any oppressive infirmities ;
and there are occasional examples of a still greater degree
of longevity.

Labour is the general lot ;
But 'tis the inmate of the cot :
To that the toiling peasant owes
Whate'er his passing life bestows,
By that he gains his daily bread ;
By that his growing offspring 's fed ;
And while he turns the stubborn field,
Or does the crooked sickle yield ;
The busy daughter and the wife
Pursue, at home, the cares of life :
They spin the thread, and ply the reel,
Or prepare the expected meal.
—Welcome labour, crown'd with smiles ;
Welcome care, that toil beguiles !
Where'er your lot, if such your state,
O! envy not the rich or great !
If clouds deform the summer day,
Let patience guide you on your way ;
And, grateful for the blessings sent,
Seek peace through life, and die content.



Peasants going to Market.

PEASANTS GOING TO MARKET.

HE is but an imperfect traveller, who neglects the local occupations, and native manners of the fixed, stationary inhabitants of any country, and hurries on from one great town to another, without informing himself of the intervening circumstances which solicit his attention, so as to see human nature in its various forms and conditions. The principal town of Madeira, like all others of the same character, must be supplied with many of the essential articles of life from the country, and the labouring peasant is the bearer of them.

One of the singularities in the toil of the Madeira peasant appears to consist in this application of the head, to which he is accustomed from his earliest years, without the least assistance from the shoulders, a part of the body that physically appears to be better suited for bearing burdens, and, in other countries, is generally employed to sustain the weight of them.

Coal has lately been introduced into this island, but in such moderate quantities, that wood continues to be the general fuel, and is brought from the country in the peculiar manner which the plate represents. Indeed the distance from which it is brought, being in the moun-

tainous parts, naturally renders it an expensive article of domestic economy. The women do not share in this labour; but the lighter burdens of fruit and vegetables, to supply the markets, are, however, borne by them in the same manner.

Where is the Muse, whose daring aim,
 Would strive to sing the human frame?
 Not such an humble strain as mine,
 Could all its various parts combine,
 Could such an arduous theme rehearse
 That would disdain my lowly verse.
 Apollo's beauty would require,
 For its due praise, Apollo's lyre.
 Herculean strength demands the aid
 Of some bold bard, whose fingers laid
 On deep-ton'd harp, the nervous string
 Might its stupendous subject sing:
 But I, in humble, tinkling strains,
 Can only chant the peasant's pains,
 By which his daily bread he gains;
 Can only mark the peasant's tread,
 With the rude burthen on his head;
 And while the female's forc'd to bear
 The head-dress labour bids her wear;
 I leave her steps to move in time,
 To her own notes and simple rhyme.



Manner of Cultivating the Ground.

PEASANTS CULTIVATING THE GROUND.

THE unequal surface that prevails throughout the island produces an obvious difficulty in its cultivation. The steepness and precipitancy of its acclivities and descents, and the rare continuance of level ground, renders the use of the plough impracticable, as it equally forbids the use of animal labour. Cultivation, therefore, must be principally, if not exclusively, produced by manual industry, and may be almost literally said to be obtained by the sweat of the human brow. Spades are not in use; but the instrument employed in breaking up the ground is a kind of long-pointed hoe, calculated, as it appears, to produce the effect of our pick-axe. This utensil is not formed to penetrate deep into the earth; and the labour is proportionably great when the vines are to be planted, which are, at least, six feet in depth; but the peasantry are a hardy race of people, and susceptible of uncommon labour. The women, indeed, sometimes assist them in the field; but their occupations, particularly after they marry, may be considered as confined to the cottage and its immediate vicinity. They are employed in spinning, and weaving the materials for domestic clothing; and their families are often numerous. They also look after the cattle, and attend, as may be supposed, to household regulations. Frequent demands

are also made upon their time by religious duties, to which these classes are minutely attentive.

As climates change, as Phœbus ray
Darts forth intolerable day ;
Or where his mild benignant beam
Shoots a more pleasing, genial gleam ;
Or where it scarcely does appear
To gild the sky for half the year ;
Or in the continent's wide range,
Where nature proves an equal change ;
Or where the rising island's cast,
Far off amid the wat'ry waste ;
With what variety of toil
Does labour bend the stubborn soil.
Along the wide-extended plains
The ever-smiling Ceres reigns ;
Where the plough's sharp, and furrowing share
Does the rich ground for seed prepare :
But here the handling of the hoe
Bids Bacchus' golden vintage flow.
Thus the observing eye may see
Scenes of all-varying industry,
And to each spot a blessing given:
Thus is fulfill'd the will of Heaven.
Thus cultivation's various art
Makes the face smile, and cheers the heart*.

* Wine that maketh glad the face of man, and bread that strengtheneth man's heart.



A Farmer & his Daughter going to Town.

A FARMER AND HIS DAUGHTER GOING TO TOWN.

THE rent which a farmer in this island pays to his landlord is a third of the produce of his farm, and he pays frequent visits to Funchal to make his proportioned offerings to the proprietor of the land which he cultivates. According to their quantity he is generally accompanied by his wife or daughter. The plate is supposed on this occasion to represent the latter. The agricultural tenure is of a peculiar character in Madeira: when the farmer dies, his son inherits the tenancy or occupation of land, which continues in regular and heritable succession.

The females of this class are fond of dress, and particularly disposed to decorate their persons, not only with flowers, but with chains, ear-rings, buttons, &c. Whenever they can make a reserve of money, they never fail to purchase such articles; and when money happens to be wanting, they are represented as being equally ready to sell them.

The cottage, plac'd beneath the hill,
The bridge that stretches o'er the rill,
The rock that lifts its head on high,
And blends its stature with the sky;
While groves and woodlands intervene
To form the charming pictured scene;—

From these the farmer's steps are bent,
 To seek the town, and pay his rent ;
 To bear the produce of the soil,
 Rear'd by his busy, daily toil,—
 To feed, by his laborious hands,
 The wants that smiling wealth demands :
 But 'tis to wealth that labour owes
 The comforts its own lot bestows.
 Joy oft depends on little things ;
 The farmer's happy when he sings ;
 And feels as he returns from town
 All his arm's burthen is his own.
 His fond girl, too, in smiles appears,
 When ringlets decorate her ears.
 And who knows but the dangling chain,
 May give her pride its pleasing reign,
 And wake her to a sprightly strain. }
 Perhaps he feels, when he was young,
 He tripp'd with lighter steps along ;
 But now, if he should want her aid,
 Close by his side the duteous maid,
 Or with her arm, or with her lay,
 Now helps him on, or cheers his way :
 Thus do our pleasures and our cares
 Go hand in hand, and march in pairs.



Rural Occupations.

FEMALE PEASANTS GRINDING CORN.

THE labour here represented is attached to the grinding of Indian corn, which, though not a native produce, is a chief article of sustenance among the labouring classes. One of the females is grinding the corn by the power of a stone, which the plate fully represents, while the other is employed in sifting it.

When the peasants go into the mountains to cut wood, they carry a sufficient quantity of this food, cooked and cold, which furnishes the necessary meals. They are a very abstemious race of people, and are known to enjoy an excellent state of health: indeed, they generally die of what may be called old age, notwithstanding the severity of that laborious life to which they are subject. Their women, as is here represented, continue to spin, with the aid of spectacles, though they do not always want them, to the extremity of life, of which the plate gives a picturesque example.

The women grinding corn in the open air is a species of labour well known in the remote ages of antiquity. In India, where the antiquary looks for the most ancient manners and customs, this labour still prevails; and Scripture itself mentions it as familiar to the evangelical age. Among other signs of the end of the world, it is

mentioned in St. Matthew, c. xxiv., v. 40, 41., "Then shall be two in the field, the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill, the one shall be taken, and the other left."

If with attentive eye we trace
 The progress of the human race,
 We find that man's first social state,
 Before he thought of being great,
 Was by hard labour and by toil,
 To hunt the woods, to till the soil;
 And all the human frame sustain'd
 Was by its daily labour gain'd;
 The women, too, were known to share
 The hardships of domestic care.
 The Patriarch's daughters, Scriptures tell,
 Water'd the cattle at the well,
 And ground the corn, as we now view
 Madeira's female peasants do.
 Thus while with curious eye we see,
 This scene of ancient industry,
 We bless the means by which the power
 Of urging the laborious hour,
 Is given to every aged dame
 By arts of later times to claim;
 For 'tis to them that old age owes
 The power to see beyond its nose.



Peasants in usual Costume.

PEASANTS IN THEIR GENERAL COSTUME.

THIS representation offers a very pleasing idea of the inferior state of rural life in Madeira, and, with a trifling addition from fancy, might serve almost for a scene in Arcadia. Music, wherever it is exercised with any degree of skill, gives a certain polish to the most inferior stations of life. The peasants of this island, almost without exception, play on the guitar, or some stringed instrument of a similar construction. They always sing at their labour, and generally compose, as they proceed, the words to the music, possessing, as it appears, the extemporaneous faculties of the improvisatori of Italy. Some of their songs are remarkable for a charming simplicity; while their national airs display uncommon spirit and appropriate animation.

When Arcadia 's seen to shine
 In painter's art, or poet's line,
 We see how much the scene receives
 From what the air of music gives.
 The shepherd's pipe, the rural song,
 That sounds the rocks and woods among,
 Whether it soothes the passing hour,
 Or tells of love's imperious power;
 The music does its notes employ,
 To lessen care or heighten joy.

Such were the shepherd's tender lays,
 Which poets tell, of former days :
 In other strains, in humbler verse,
 The island's music we rehearse.

Here while the peasant strikes the strings, }
 'Neath its green shades, or by its springs, }
 And his own measur'd fancies sings, }
 Labour itself is seen to smile,
 And mock the weary hours of toil.
 At cottage door, or 'neath the tree,
 The sounds of rural minstrelsy,
 At evening hour salute the ear :
 The passing stranger stops to hear ;
 And feels it as a blessing given,
 Th' indulgent boon of bounteous Heaven,
 Of nature the unstudied lay,
 To cheer the labourer on his way ;
 Who feels, although that way be long,
 'Tis always shorten'd by a song.



COSTUME PECULIAR TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE WESTERN PART OF THE ISLAND.

THERE is a manifest difference between the southern and western natives of the island of Madeira. It is not necessary to attempt a philosophical inquiry into the causes of this variety. It is sufficient for these pages merely to state its existence. Those of the western side lay claim to, as they indeed possess, a decided superiority over those of the southern part of the island. Their manners and habits are more simple and natural; their figures present a more regular proportion, and their skin a finer complexion. They are described also, as remarkable for the brightness of their eyes, the growth of their hair, and the beauty of their teeth. They frequently go barefoot; but when their feet are clad, they wear boots made of goat-skins, which are light and durable, and being white, have a pretty appearance. The whole dress of both sexes has a picturesque character, both as to shape and variety of colours. For its materials, the wearers are solely indebted to their own domestic manufacture, in which the female hands are more particularly employed.

BEAUTY 's a thing will ever claim
Attention to its very name,
And, in whatever form 'tis seen,
Will be, as it has ever been,

A charm to the admiring eye
 In all her vast variety.
 Whether in her wild, native state,
 Or living or inanimate ;
 If she in flow'ry vale appears,
 Or the rude, rocky mountain rears ;
 Whether the crystal riv'let flow,
 Through verdant meads, or from the brow
 Of some high clift the torrents pour,
 In dashing foam and ceaseless roar :
 Or when fair art its aid displays,
 And doth the stately mansion raise
 T' enrich the landscape all serene,
 And with new forms adorn the scene.
 But how superior is the charm
 That is from living nature warm,
 And, in its various scale of sense,
 Beams with the mind's intelligence,
 Whether it sparkles from the eye,
 Or smiles 'twixt rows of ivory ;
 Or when the native tresses break
 In flowing ringlets down the neck,
 And grace a form that doth command
 The wishes of the sculptor's hand.
 These are the beauties that impart
 An impulse to the glowing heart,
 Whether in courtly robes array'd,
 Or seen beneath the rural shade,
 In shepherd swain or rustic maid.



FISHERMEN.

THE coast of Madeira is rich in the produce of its waters. The abundance, variety, and excellence, of the fish, which are daily, nay, it may be said, almost hourly caught, is among the blessings with which the inhabitants of this island are favoured. As the religion of the people is not only exclusively, but rigidly, Roman Catholic, their frequent abstinence from flesh meat as a religious rite, and the consequent application to fish, as the only allowable food on their numerous fast-days, and seasons of abstinence, renders the sea an essential reservoir of their sustenance. The demand, therefore, is proportionably great, and the supply is fully, and at all times, equal to the demand. The rivers are so rapid in their flow, and so interrupted by water-falls, that the eel appears alone to reward the labour of the interior fisherman.

Funchal has a regular fish-market, which is supplied, at least, three times a day; and a few hours only intervene between the transfer of this necessary article of food from the sea to the table. This convenience arises, in a great measure, from the harbour being the scene of the fisherman's labour, which is there so generally and so amply rewarded, that he is seldom known to extend his piscatory voyage beyond it.

Such it appears the sov'reign plan,
Nature the handmaid is of man.

Whate'er she 's given to produce
 Is for his universal use :
 Whate'er he wants she can supply
 Or to his art or industry.
 Nor is she bound by range of time,
 By suns remote or varying clime ;
 Each element her voice obeys,
 And all combin'd her pleasure sways.
 Nay, is it not by her command
 That yellow harvests gild the land ?
 The silver wave, the briny flood,
 The peopled air, the pregnant wood,
 The pasture rich, the verdant plain,
 All own alike her bounteous reign.
 Has she not given to human toil
 The nurtur'd fruits of ev'ry soil ?
 E'en 'mid the Alpine Mountain's snow,
 Where torrents roar, and tempests blow,
 E'en there her kindness will contrive
 To make the native smile and live ;
 Check in his breast each rude alarm,
 And give the fur that keeps him warm.
 But in this highly-favour'd isle
 All plenty waits upon her smile ;
 And adds the grape, that gives a zest,
 By its rich juice, to all the rest.



Country Musicians.

ITINERANT MUSICIANS.

It may be naturally expected, in a country, where the love of music and the practice of it is so universal, from rank and opulence to the lowest classes of every denomination, that there would be such a profession as that which the plate so characteristically displays. These itinerant musicians assist at the religious festivals and the private entertainments of the capital, while they entertain the more humble audience of the village. Indeed, as they travel from one end of the island to the other, they may be considered as occasionally enlivening and delighting the whole of it. To the song and the instrument they add the dance. They excel also in extemporaneous compositions. Their music is suited to the occasion; and their dancing is not devoid of grace, but slow in its movements. Their occupation is to afford pleasure to others; but, as they are in continual motion, and never stationary, theirs is a life of no common labour. They are represented as sleeping little, and eating less: but, though they support their fatigue chiefly by drinking, they are never seen to indulge it to excess.

How blithe they look, how brisk and gay!
 'Tis thus they sing their lives away:
 At least in this all must agree
 They're heard to live in harmony.

While with their song and graceful measure
 They labour to give others pleasure,
 And each his daily morsel gains,
 By pleasing sounds and winning strains,
 To welcome mirth, and banish pains. }
 Though to make merry they succeed,
 'Tis but a toilsome life they lead ;
 And thus their good is mix'd with bad,
 For they must sing though they are sad :
 Nay, whatsoever ills annoy,
 They must perform the part of joy :
 Whate'er may be their foul mischance,
 Though they're sore-footed, they must dance.
 'Tis thus their bus'ness they fulfil,
 They live by never standing still ;
 And 'tis their lot this world among
 Rarely to have a quiet tongue.
 Although they gain their due reward,
 These trav'ling minstrels labour hard :
 But then this comfort they possess,
 And that's some source of happiness,
 That, in their journeys to and fro,
 They carry mirth where'er they go.



Manner of bringing Wine to Town when clear.

MANNER OF BRINGING WINE TO TOWN WHEN CLEAR.

AFTER the wine is pressed from the grape, it is allowed to remain for a certain time in a state of fermentation, and when clear, is transported to town in barrels, carried by small ponies, a race of horses peculiar to the island of Madeira. In the same manner they carry bags of rice, flour, and baggage, of all descriptions, from the town into the country. These small horses are equally remarkable for their strength and docility, being perfectly tractable in all the various uses to which they are applied. Indeed, it is a singular faculty which they acquire, of continuing the same pace in ascending or descending the hills, over which their journeys oblige them to pass. They live to a great age, but whether it is from their native character, niggardly sustenance, or severe labour, they are never seen to attain the good case which is the general appearance of the same animal in England.

The inhabitants are partial to the English breed of horses, for which they are known to give great prices. They have also American horses, which are found to adapt their footing very readily to the roads of the country.

TO MADEIRA.

How oft thy juice, benignant isle,
Has made the Briton's heart to smile!

How oft the flowing of thy vine
Has proved a cordial medicine !
And, having wandered o'er the seas,
Will give the failing stomach ease.
And shall we not, with pleasure, see
The course of art and industry,
Which does such beverage prepare
For British luxury to share ?

With all that Britain's isle can boast,
Bacchus' inspiring boon she lost ;
Who gives her nought to make her merry,
But apple juice and sparkling perry ;
Or on those mixtures to regale,
Those dulling fluids, beer and ale,
The Goths' invention, and ne'er known
By those who live near Helicon.
How oft thy juice, benignant isle,
Has made a Briton's heart to smile ;
For 'tis to thee, and climes like thine,
That Britain's sons must look for wine!



Manner of drawing Pipes &c. by means of the Sledge.

THE MANNER OF DRAWING PIPES OF WINE ON A SLEDGE.

THIS is the usual way of transporting wine from one part of the town to the other. The coopers of Funchal are known to be excellent workmen, and the pipes made are very much admired for their perfect construction. The oxen employed on the occasion, which are natives of the island, are a very beautiful race of animals, and highly useful, both for their strength and tractable character. But this is not all:—when they are become too old to be employed in labour, they are fattened and killed, and the meat is excellent. The quantity of cattle bred in the country is very great. Even ships are supplied with large quantities of beef by the island, and the home consumption is very considerable. Nor is it dear, seldom exceeding a *Bit* per pound, which is about five-pence English currency.

In times of old, when records give
The ways in which man used to live,
We know what strength sustained the yoke ;
What patient power the furrow broke ;
Who aided the laborious plan
Of patriarchal husbandman.
Then, with sturdy, patient mien,
To share the toil, the ox is seen.

He work'd the plough, and, from the plain,
Drew off the weight of yellow grain ;
Nor was he muzzled when he trod
The corn that formed his heavy load.
Nay, since, through every age that's gone,
He is for useful labour known :
But even labour may refine,
For corn is here exchanged for wine ;
And now it is the oxen's task,
To drag along the liquid cask,
Filled with the juice that aids the treat
When they're cut up, and turned to meat.



WINE-CARRIER.

AN ACCIDENT ON THE ROAD.

As the characteristic circumstance displayed in the plate admits of an humorous idea, an humorous title has been given to it, but altogether consistent with the natural habits of the peasants employed in the office of Wine-carriers. When the grapes have been duly pressed, the wine is carried by peasants, as represented in the plate, in goat-skins, to a store, where it is emptied into suitable vats, or vessels, for the process of fermentation. Such is the fatigue occasioned by the inequalities of the road, and the usual heat of the season, that these carriers are sometimes tempted to refresh and sustain themselves, by taking certain liberties with their loads, which extreme thirst suggests, and favourable opportunities encourage. Sometimes a goat's-skin may burst from unavoidable accidents, which give a right to the overflowing juice; but, under very pressing circumstances of thirst and weariness, it may so happen, that an artificial accident is contrived to relieve them. The wine in this state acts as an enlivener and restorative without any subsequent stupor.

This plate gives so distinct a view of the dress of these people, that a description of it will not find a more suitable place than on this page. Its form is correctly represented by the pencil; and it only remains for the pen to add, that

it consists of a kind of linen cloth, manufactured by the women. It is at once light, and of a close texture, so that it is equally calculated for the different seasons, and possesses a firmness of fabric that promises a peculiar length of wear and tear. Their heads are covered with a cloth cap verging to a point; while their hair hangs in long ringlets down their backs. They wear round their necks a ribbon, which answers in its length to the measurement of the figure of their patron saint. To this personal decoration they attach the character of a religious talisman.

Whether it were a froward thrust
 That compels the skin to burst,
 Urg'd by the bearer's daring thirst— }
 Or whether he his throat is filling
 To save the precious juice from spilling,
 And that this native spring of mirth,
 Should not be cast on barren earth—
 Can, 'tis presum'd, be only known
 To that same pleasant thought alone,
 Which, tender of the flowing wine,
 Display'd the humorous design.
 But, whatsoe'er the truth may be,
 A gen'rous, kind philosophy
 Will not the welcome bev'rage grudge
 To the poor, thirsty, swelt'ring drudge,
 Who, as his weary way he saunters,
 The goat's-skin in his lips decanters,
 To give him spirits on his way,
 And make his future journey gay.
 While we view the bleeding skin,
 And see him suck the juice within.
 'Tis a hard heart who here would blame:
 Nine out of ten would do the same.

A FRIAR OF THE ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS AND A LAY BROTHER.

IN Catholic countries, at least in those where monastic institutions retain their establishments, the Franciscan orders are the most numerous ; and if a town, has but one convent, as is the case at Funchal, it may generally be presumed to be devoted to St. Francis. Its brothers are, of course, of the priesthood ; but, besides the duties of their own domestic altars, they also travel from place to place, extending the performance of their spiritual functions, particularly that of preaching. Among the lower classes especially, their offices are frequently preferred to those of the secular clergy. Their influence, therefore, must be in proportion to these circumstances ; though it may be diminishing, from the enlightened spirit of the age in which we live.

Some of the fathers are represented as men of family and education, who mix in society, and sometimes bear the marks of that hospitality to which they are admitted. A jolly Franciscan may not be an uncommon sight, and spiritual pride may sometimes, perhaps, be seen to blend with the mendicant profession ; though the lay-brother, who is employed in the domestic offices of the convent, offers rather a picture of humility.

Holy St. Francis, do I see	}
One who has sworn his faith to thee,	
To live a life of poverty!	

One who so lowly makes pretence
To rigid rules of abstinence !

One who has vowed it is a sin,
To live in ought but shrivelled skin ;
Who should be humble and be thin !

Holy St. Francis, saint divine,
This cannot be a child of thine !
Thou wert pale, and lank, and lean,
With downcast eye, and haggard mien ;
And, with thy scourge, gave many a thwack
Upon thy patient, smarting back ;
And was, so history tells us, fraught
With the humility you taught.
But it appears that modern schools
Have changed the rigour of thy rules ;
Else why that swelling, outstretch'd hide ;
That look of insolence and pride ;
Whence the disdainful sneer we see
On poor, half-starved humility ?

St. Francis, as old legends tell,
Would sometimes work a miracle ;
And this, as some have thought, is one,
To form such flesh by fish alone ;
To conjure up such monstrous paunches,
Without the aid of hams and haunches !



A Franciscan Friar collecting Donations for his Convent.

A BROTHER OF THE ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS
COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR HIS
CONVENT.

THIS is one of the orders of St. Francis, all of which, from the nature of their establishment, are mendicant, not being allowed to possess any property beyond the walls of their cloister. The community, which is numerous, is entirely supported by charitable contributions. There are three branches of the principal institution at Funchal which are settled in different parts of the island, to collect support from the country people, particularly at the time of the vintage. The charity thus obtained consists generally of a loaf of bread, or other article of sustenance, with some small piece of money, for which the mendicant friar returns his holy benediction. No place escapes their solicitation, which assumes a different form, according to the character of those to whom the eleemosynary applicant addresses himself. Places of refreshment are very numerous in different parts of the town as well as of the country, where stalls present bread, fruit, and wine, for sale, as represented in the plate. These never escape the friar's application, and as seldom fail of adding to the contents of the conventual sack.

TO CHARITY.

Thou ever blest Samaritan,
How great thy heartfelt good to man!

What blessings, thou fair child of Heaven,
Is by thy power to mortals given.
Where'er the boundless oceans flow ;
Where'er the winds are bid to blow,
Thy smiles the face of sorrow cheer
Thy hand wipes off the flowing tear !
No clime but feels thy beaming ray ;
No shore but knows thy sunny day ;
Nor is there any suffering known
Which charity forgets to own !
—And shall Religion ask in vain
Its rites, its altars, to sustain ?
Ah no ! the best returns are made,
When with a prayer the boon 's repaid ;
When holy hands salute the cheek,
At once so rosy, plump, and sleek.
Thus, as we see, in different places,
Devotion puts on different faces :
But still, however sought or woo'd,
Goodness will deal the dole of good.



A Franciscan Father on a Journey.

A FATHER OF THE ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS ON A JOURNEY.

THIS is a correct representation of the manner in which the inhabitants of this island travel on horseback; and the rider being here displayed in a monastic character, and with that kind of bulk, which monastic fasting and praying does not always discourage, together with the pedestrian attendant on these occasions, a picturesque design is offered, which, while it is true to nature and to custom, cannot fail of producing humorous sensations in the minds of those who are accustomed to countries where smooth roads invite the easy, undisturbed conveyance of the wheel carriage. The usual mode of pursuing a journey here is with as much speed as the horse is capable of employing, and the pace represented is that to which the animals are accustomed: nor does the size of the rider, the gravity of his character, the state of the weather, or the less or greater inequality of the road make any apparent difference in the rapidity of the journey. A man or boy is always seen to accompany the equestrian traveller; and his hold of the horse's tail, which is always of sufficient length, quickens his speed and relieves his running, particularly in the steep ascents with which the country abounds.

These horses are stationed throughout the day, in

different parts of the town, ready saddled and bridled for instant service, and at established prices, according to the distance of the proposed journey.

Why, holy Father, all this haste ?
 Why push your breathing beast so fast ?
 An order has St. Francis given
 To make you gallop on tow'rds Heaven ?
 Or haste you to confess a sinner ?
 Perhaps the shrill chime rings for dinner,
 Or you may hear the distant bell
 That does the supper hour foretell :
 For when those lusty sides we view,
 We judge them hastening hours for you !
 Your piety we would not banter,
 But while you urge this lively canter,
 And thus excite the pony's speed,
 You surely cannot count a bead ;
 No Pater-noster can be uttered ;
 No Ave-Mary can be muttered ;
 For the grave offerings of devotion
 Can never suit with such a motion ;
 Nor can you one brief blessing find
 For him who runs and tugs behind.
 But scenes like these, through life, prevail ;
 Some guide the head, some hold the tail.

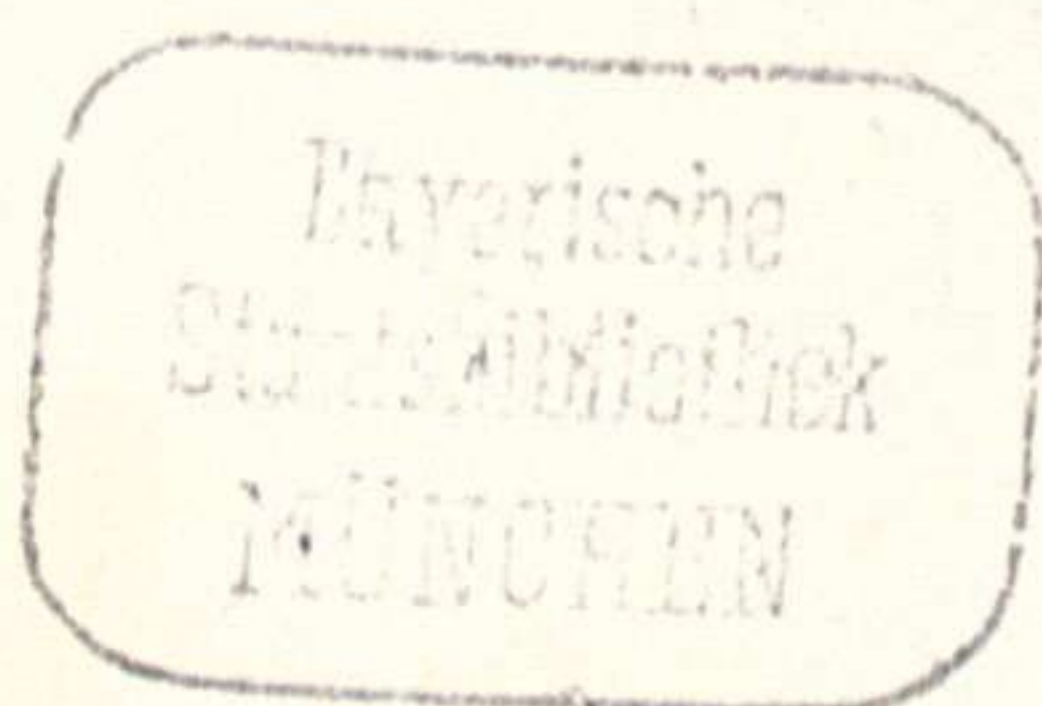


CLERGYMEN IN DIFFERENT ATTIRE.

THE vicars, curates, and students, may be distinguished by their different habit. They have also a dress for ordinary occasions, when amusement or duty calls them on equestrian excursions.

There is a bishop at Madeira who, of course, exercises the episcopal functions throughout the island, and maintains the ecclesiastical power over the clergy of which there is a large proportion. Some of the parishes are very productive benefices, whose ministers have very good houses, and maintain a suitable hospitality, as they receive all travellers, and such devotees, as from motives of piety visit their respective churches. There are also numerous chapels which belong to individuals who spare no expense in their decorations. Every church has its stated or occasional festival; so that there is scarce a day on which a holiday is not celebrated in some part or other of the island, with religious procession, festivity and sacred music, at which some of the Franciscans, who are generally good choral performers, assist. Nor are plentiful hospitalities wanting to attract visitors at these ceremonies. The patron saint of every church is thus honoured.

Whene'er Devotion's seen to raise
Its altars to the Maker's praise;
Whate'er the forms in which are given
Its tributes to protecting Heaven;



Whoe'er are stationed to prepare
 The lips to ask admission there;
 If sacred charity presides;
 If pious hope the office guides;
 And the unerring path 's pursued,
 That leads to what is just and good;
 If the wanderer 's called that strays
 From virtue's sure and better ways;
 Whate'er the character and name,
 If such should be devotion's aim,
 'Twere vain for various mode to fight,
 This doctrine must be in the right.
 It matters not, in cowl or hood,
 If the preacher's words are good;
 Should but his zeal be warm to press
 The notions of true happiness;
 If he, by his example, teaches
 The wholesome lessons which he preaches,
 Reason approves him, nothing loth,
 Nor minds the cutting of his cloth.
 —If, in their duties, priests are able,
 It values not what kind of sable
 Their mother church dooms them to wear.
 They will, in rank, revered appear,
 If they but feed, devoid of strife,
 Their sheepfolds with the bread of life.



LAY-SISTERS OF THE ORDER OF THE LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL.

THE nunneries of the Island of Madeira are confined to Funchal, and consist of four conventual establishments for females. One of them is formed upon the same system as that of La Trappe in Normandy, as it existed previous to the French Revolution. Among other rigorous and unsocial regulations, these cloistered ladies are not only forbidden the use of speech themselves, but even of hearing that of others. All conversation, therefore, is prohibited when the gates of this silent mansion are once closed upon them. It is presumed, that there never was another institution of this character for the female religious, under any regulation, or in any jurisdiction of the Church of Rome.

The independent nunneries here have but moderate revenues; and the poorer ones are maintained by the ingenious industry of their inhabitants in making artificial flowers, which they do with great taste and imitative power. They also excel in preserving fruits, and various branches of confectionary.

The nuns, whose figures are represented in the plate, being *Lay Sisters*, enjoy a perfect state of liberty, which

they employ in offices of charity and devotion, nursing the sick, &c.; but always appear in the religious habit in which they are here displayed.

Who shall presume to analyze
 The varying forms, the diff'rent guise,
 That religion doth assume
 'Tween the cold north and radiant Rome!
 The white, the black, the grey appear,
 Now rising there, now scatter'd here :
 These have supplied, and still supply,
 A page in this world's history.
 The hermit, in his lonely cell,
 Who does his calm devotion tell
 By matin and by midnight bell :
 The monk who, by the lamp's pale ray,
 Goes mutt'ring on his cloister'd way ;
 While pride pontific claims to own
 The glitt'ring splendour of a throne,
 These the reflecting mind may view
 As they their different lots pursue:
 But how with patience can we see
 Heaven's last best work no longer free ;
 And who for ever checks her voice
 By her own wish and solemn choice.
 'Tis the last wonder we can seek,
 A woman never heard to speak !
 But such e'en Funchal's walls can tell,
 And boasts the existing miracle !



A Nun and her Attendant.

A NUN OF THE ORDER OF MOUNT CARMEL, AND HER ATTENDANT.

THE dress of this order of nuns possesses the advantage, for such, at least, they are supposed to consider it, of being favourable to the display of beautiful features. But, though they are condemned by their monastic vow to a state of celibacy and cloistered uniformity for the whole of their lives, they are represented as being far more contented than may be supposed, by those who form their judgment from the general character of human nature. The ladies of Mount Carmel, though confined within the walls of their convent, are, by the rules of their institution, permitted to receive the visits of friends, when they never fail to enliven conversation, and to betray an eager curiosity after what is passing in the world.

They, however, have their more serious employments. Religion furnishes them with many; and some portion of their time is engaged in the gratuitous education of children. They amuse themselves, also, in preserving fruits, which they distribute as presents. They likewise excel in wax-work and artificial flowers, in which elegant labours they display no common taste and fancy. These they offer to their friends, or as decorations to the altars of churches, and to heighten the show of public festivals.

What various trifles do we see

Amuse the smiling phantasy!

And, e'en within the cloister'd cell,
 Coquetry may be seen to dwell.
 The Carmel dames are said to boast
 A robe by which no charm is lost;
 By some, indeed, it is maintain'd
 By that same robe a charm is gain'd.
 Thus, though by vows they are shut out
 From mixing with life's busy rout,
 They through the grate can throw their eyes,
 And glance upon life's courtesies;
 Look tow'rds the world, and turn an ear,
 To what may then be passing there.
 Thus, though with walls encompassed round,
 The social chit-chat may be found;
 And, though devotion may inspire
 The frequent chantings of the choir,
 That bids the worldly thought retire,
 They still can weave the garlands gay
 To deck fond pleasure's holiday;
 And give their tasteful art to glow
 On fashion's variegated brow:
 'Tis droll, but then we see 'tis true,
 While their own cravings they subdue;
 While they profess to be content
 With their half-starving meals in Lent,
 Their culinary art we see
 Employ'd to sweeten luxury.
 Thus the Carmel dames, at least,
 Can deck a cap, and grace a feast.



A Lady & her Servant going to Church.

A LADY GOING TO MASS, ATTENDED BY HER SERVANT.

THE Roman Catholic religion, which is so abundant in its ceremonies, has a proportionate claim upon the time of its votaries in those countries where popery is the established faith; and in a distant colony, so circumstanced as the Island of Madeira, where amusing enjoyments and occupations are necessarily circumscribed, the attendance upon religious offices, which are so frequently heightened by showy and attractive ceremonials, is seldom neglected by the superior classes, and particularly the female part of them, who have little to do. The ladies are usually dressed in black, and proceed in a grave and stately pace, followed by their domestic attendants. Their hair is also decked with fanciful prettiness, consisting of a profusion of ornaments tastefully arranged. They also wear long transparent veils, which do not altogether conceal the beautiful faces over which they flow, and are by no means rare at Funchal. Indeed, the ladies are never seen walking in the streets but when proceeding to their devotions, and then a solitary figure is very seldom observable, as they generally go in companies more or less numerous, as circumstances or accident may occasion.

With various views the anxious fair
Employs th' adorning toilette's care,

To aid the force of nature's charms
 With art's gay, decorative arms;
 Which with new power can beauty grace,
 Improve the shape, and in the face,
 Heighten the charm where charm prevails,
 And hide defects where nature fails.

Thus art attracts the admiring eye
 With added grace and symmetry,
 Where pleasure does th' assembly call,
 To gilded bower and splendid hall.

But here the toilette's graver care
 Attends upon the hour of prayer :
 Though beads and rosary are there,
 Th' embroider'd veil and wreaths of flowers
 Are called to deck the sacred hours.

Thus gay Devotion bids the female roam
 From the dull precincts of a lattic'd home,
 With stately tread and meek attendant train,
 To go to church, and then—come home again.



Usual manner of Travelling in Hammocks.

THE USUAL MODE OF TRAVELLING.

THE palanquin, which is the common conveyance of the town, is too weighty to be carried with equal ease over the rugged unequal roads, that form the communication from one part of the country to the other. For this purpose a hammock is employed, made of strong net-work, fastened at each end to a considerable length of bamboo, which is capable of bearing such a weight, as the design intends to express. In this way the country parties are formed; nor is sleep refused in the passage, to which the posture is peculiarly inviting: the gentlemen, also, frequently prefer it to riding. Porters follow the hammocks with the necessary baggage.

The travelling bearers of these machines possess not only the strength adequate to the load, but display all the agility which the unequal surface of the roads requires, as well as a curious expertness in shifting the bamboo from one shoulder to the other, in order to relieve themselves, without any risk to the persons whom they carry, or causing the least apprehension for their security. Indeed, accidents of any kind are altogether unheard of in this mode of travelling.

If a calm state of smiling ease
Doth e'er possess the charm to please;

Where not a thought of pain or care
Appears to ask admittance there,
O, let the trav'ling hammock tell
What thus it gives and paints so well !
O'er hill and dale, o'er mount and rock,
To pass along without a shock ;
To reach the summit of a peak,
Nor lift a hand, nor give a shriek ;
In all the ups and downs a stranger
To any trembling sense of danger ;
Or, if asleep, not one rude shake,
To cause a start, and bid awake ;—
Fair Lady, if you have at home
The self-same ease as when you roam ;
If as free from care or strife,
O, what a happy maid or wife !
While thus such gentle comforts smile
In trav'ling o'er Madeira's isle,
You need not envy any shore,
To post it in a chaise and four.



Manner of Visiting among the Ladies at Funchal.

MANNER OF VISITING AMONG THE LADIES AT FUNCHAL.

THE palanquin is the carriage used on this occasion. It is light, easy, and well suited to the purpose for which it is employed. Its only furniture is a cushion, with a silk or chintz curtain. The Portuguese ladies very seldom walk out but to attend their devotions: on all other occasions, when they leave their houses, it is in this manner, attended by a servant, dressed as is here represented. The bearers are such by profession; and are always seen standing in the market-place ready to be hired. They possess the requisite strength and activity, and prefer running to a slower pace.

The palanquin is used by the gentlemen as well as the ladies, and is made of iron, which is found to be lighter than wood. Its support is a bamboo brought from the Brazils. The invalids, also, find it a most pleasing and commodious mode of conveyance, as it affords them the means of taking the air, without any distressing motion.

The gate in the picture is a representation of the entrance to the public walk.

If life were given to be at ease,
To receive pleasure and to please,

And, as we pass, from day to day,
To feel no jostlings on the way,
This beauteous island seems to give
An easy, quiet way to live :
It is, as it appears, to sail
Along the stream, with gentle gale.
The tranquil fair one never feels
The hurry of the whirling wheels ;
A little way to go and come,
And never far removed from home :
Soon at her little journey's end
To see and to embrace a friend.
Such in Madeira's city 's seen
The pleasure of the palanquin :
Such is the calm and quiet stage
For beauty's bloom, and closing age.
The dames of European city,
Might say it was serenely pretty ;
But, in their spirits' lively flow,
Would think it rather dull or so.



Members of the Senate.

MEMBERS OF THE CAMERA OR SENATE.

SUCH is the dress and official appearance of the members of the presiding council of Madeira, which is composed of the principal officers of state, and possesses a supreme power in directing the affairs of the island. As it forms the entire and uncontrollable legislature, it accordingly makes laws, determines judicial proceedings, and regulates all the concerns, both public and private, of the Madeira government.

The seat, we 're told, where wisdom reigns,
Is in the scull that holds the brains :
And hence it is, we may suppose,
That deck'd with all its curling rows,
The wig, in various forms we see,
Giving that wisdom dignity.
Thus British law 's, so sapient sages,
As it appears, in latter ages,
Have clad their grave and solemn brow
With all the awe wigs can bestow,
And which, as formal folk determine,
Is fit companion for the ermine.
But though our days have bid adieu,
Both to the bag and to the queue ;
And crops, of various kinds, alone
Are now the great and vulgar ton,

Yet the full bottom and the tie,
Still grace the lawyers' dignity ;
Or by their figure, give a weight
To full-dressed officers of state.

Such Funchal's counsellors are seen,
With suited air and solemn mien,
With flowing curls, and lengthened bann,
To mark and dignify the man,
Who doth to honour's rank attain ;
Nor holds the staff of power in vain.



Official Drefs of the members of the Camera or Senate on the Death of the King and Accefsion of his Succefsor.

OFFICIAL DRESSES OF THE SENATORS, ON THE DEATH OR ACCESSION OF THE KING.

THIS costume is given rather as a matter of curiosity than a general or familiar representation, as it is never assumed but on the death of a king of Portugal, and the accession of his successor to the throne. The ceremonies on these contrasted occasions are suited, of course, to the character of the different solemnities. The ceremonies of the Romish church possess the means of introducing all the splendour of which public worship is susceptible, whether it be in the more solemn masses for the soul of the dead monarch, or the more splendid office of singing *Te Deum* on proclaiming his successor. Music forms a principal part of these ceremonies, whether it gives effect to the solemnity of the funeral service, or quickens the exultation of loyal hopes and patriot affections on celebrating the commencement of a new reign. The choirs of the principal churches in the island are well arranged, and the music performed in a style of no common excellence. They have organs also, which are fine instruments; so that nothing appears to be wanting to give effect to public ceremonies, of which religious worship in catholic countries always forms a principal part.

When the regal sov'reigns die,
E'en death is cloth'd with dignity;

When royal ashes seek the urn,
 How vast the grief, for nations mourn!
 When a new hand the sceptre sways,
 A nation feels a wish to praise!
 Soon as a royal father's gone,
 The tear is shed ;—that duty done,
 Hope brightens on the sceptred son. }
 Thus Heaven does its mercy show,
 And sends the joy to cure the woe:
 Thus we our general nature scan
 In the great families of man,
 For such are nations,—The same doom
 That each feels in his private home,
 The scene of common joy and sorrow,
 Which comes to-day and goes to-morrow.
 Thus life is like an April day,
 With falling shower and sunny ray:
 To-day the mourning cloaks annoy;
 To-morrow wave the plumes of joy.



An Officer & Private of the Garrison of Fruncheal.

AN OFFICER AND SOLDIER OF THE GARRISON OF FUNCHAL.

THE Portuguese are known to make good soldiers; a character of which they proved themselves deserving during the late peninsular war. The garrison of Madeira consists of native troops, commanded by native officers. The whole military force includes one battalion of regulars, and three militia regiments, each consisting of about eight hundred men; but the latter are only called forth on public festivals and days of ceremony. Their uniform is very handsome, as the plate represents, and, on a field-day, they present a very military appearance. The regulars are quartered in Funchal, where there are very commodious barracks for their reception.

It might be expected, that the Madeira troops, from their insular character, and confined range of military experience, would be deficient in point of discipline; but however that may have been, they are now, at all points, excellent soldiers. It is indeed more than probable, that they derived considerable advantage from the English troops who were stationed at Madeira, for a certain period, under the command of Lord Beresford, and the Generals Meade and Gordon, to protect the island from the threatened invasion of Buonaparte.

From the natural taste of the inhabitants for music, there can be no difficulty in forming a military band of superior excellence.

The soldiers on the Tagus bred,
 Were oft to splendid vict'ry led,
 As in our annals it is known,
 By courage and by WELLINGTON;
 And, by the British Heroes' side,
 Have bravely fought, and bled, and died:
 Nor would the island band disgrace
 The honour of their native race.
 Though small their force, yet, in their mien,
 The soldier's character is seen,
 And Funchal's bastion would not yield
 Without hard struggles for the field.
 Britannia's all-protecting pow'r
 Was call'd forth in the threat'ning hour,
 When daring France, by force or guile,
 Prepar'd to seize this beauteous isle,
 And sav'd it from the tyrant blow
 That might have caus'd its overthrow.
 Thus, while her arms bade terror cease,
 And gave tranquillity and peace,
 She might to native courage join
 The aid of British discipline.



DRILLING.

THE awkwardness of recruits, on their first entrance into military life, is well known to every one who has had an opportunity of observing instructions received from a drill-serjeant, and the contrasted figure of an officer, perfect in every point of discipline, with the clumsy being, who is endeavouring to obey the command which he scarcely understands. This circumstance speaks for itself. The Portuguese figures approach, perhaps, from their dress and other local peculiarities, nearer to the picturesque than those that we have seen in the same awkward state of trial on our own parades; and will, therefore, give an higher degree of humorous interest to the representation, without deviating into burlesque and caricature. The plate professes to be a portraiture of its different characters, and there is no reason, on an examination of it, to suppose that it deviates from that specimen of nature which it professes to imitate.

Here by the pencil is display'd
 The first step by a soldier made;
 How taught the hostile blood to spill
 By the manœuvres of a drill.
 It is a truth to soldiers known,
 Nor will they e'er forget to own,
 That those who now in order fight,
 Scarce knew the left leg from the right.

They who would breast the cannonade,
Or rush from out the ambushade,
And strike with their resistless blow,
The panic-struck and flying foe;
They who the well-pois'd weapon bear,
And move but in the step of war,
Plum'd and in martial liv'ry clad,
Were tutor'd in the awkward squad.
Such are the characters display'd
A peasant, e'er a soldier made.
Thus fitted by the drilling art,
The soldier's arm is taught to know
How to direct the fatal blow,
Urg'd by the courage of the heart.



West View of Loo Fort.

WESTERN VIEW OF THE LOO FORT.

THE LOO FORT occupies an insulated, perpendicular rock of that name, which rises from the sea opposite Funchal, and at a small distance from the shore. It contains a garrison, and is surrounded by a rampart mounted with cannon. The only entrance is by a narrow flight of steps hewn out of the rock.

It is capable of resisting an attack on the town from the sea, as it possesses an entire command of the harbour; but, in times of peace, its utility appears to be altogether commercial. It never suffers any vessels to have communication with the shore till they have been visited by the custom-house and health-boats, for which purpose a very active vigilance is maintained. As soon as a vessel appears in sight, a small flag is hoisted on the tower to announce it to the town; as, from its situation, it can command a greater distance of sea than any part of the shore. The visit-boat goes off immediately to report the vessel to the governor, as to its country, cargo, and the state of its health. If there are no impediments, she is then allowed to communicate with the land; but if there is any obstacle, she is ordered out to sea till that is removed. If a vessel sends off a boat before she is visited, it risks the fire of the fort.

In bad weather, vessels get behind the rock, where they are safe from running on shore, or being blown out to sea.

Is there aught in this world's vast round
That does not with some good abound
No, not an atom but may prove
A blessing from the powers above,
That in itself, or shap'd by art,
May to man's wants some good impart.
E'en poison does its powers combine
With those of wholesome medicine;
And when employed with chymic skill,
Is reft of all its means to kill;
And as a truth we all may feel,
Will change its fatal power, and heal.
'Tis true, this is a common thought,
But still with strong examples fraught.
E'en rocks, those inmates of the main,
Within whose region dangers reign,
On which the seaman's fears attend,
May sometimes prove the seaman's friend.
Here, rising boldly from the sea,
A rock boasts its utility:
It ne'er o'erlooks the seaman's grave,
But offers to protect and save;
And, while the billows round it roar,
It guides the ship, and guards the shore.

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LONDON:
PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES,
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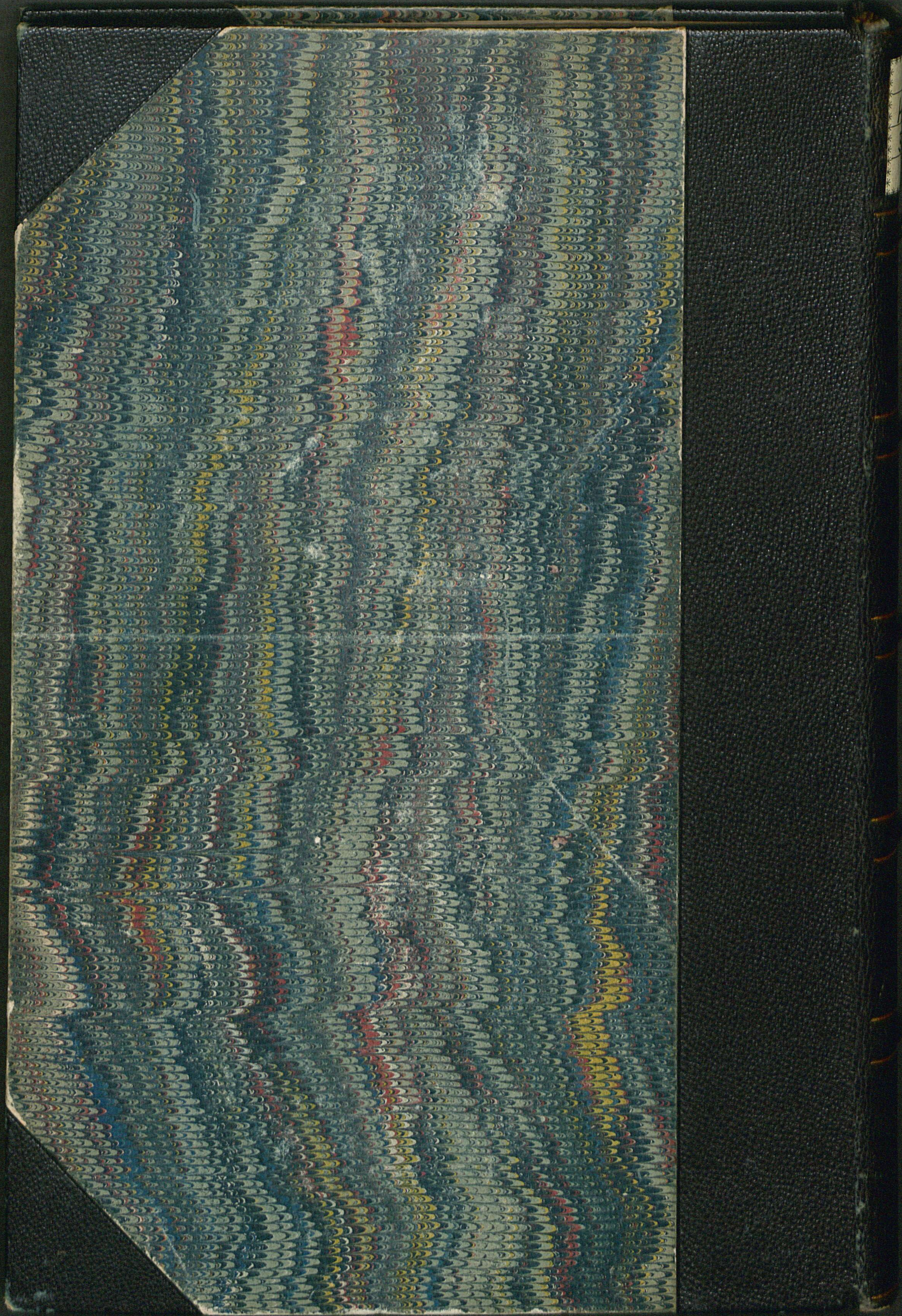
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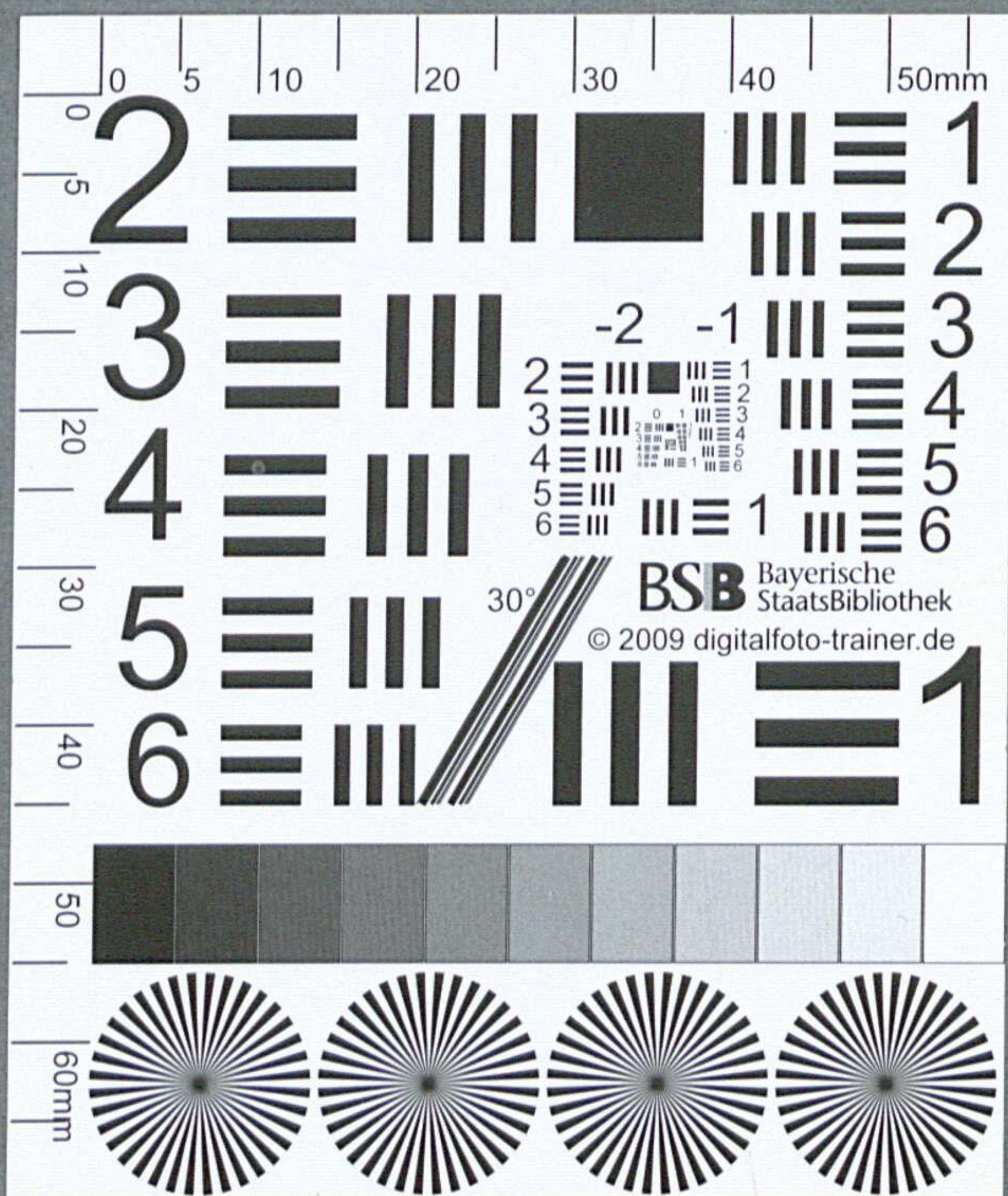
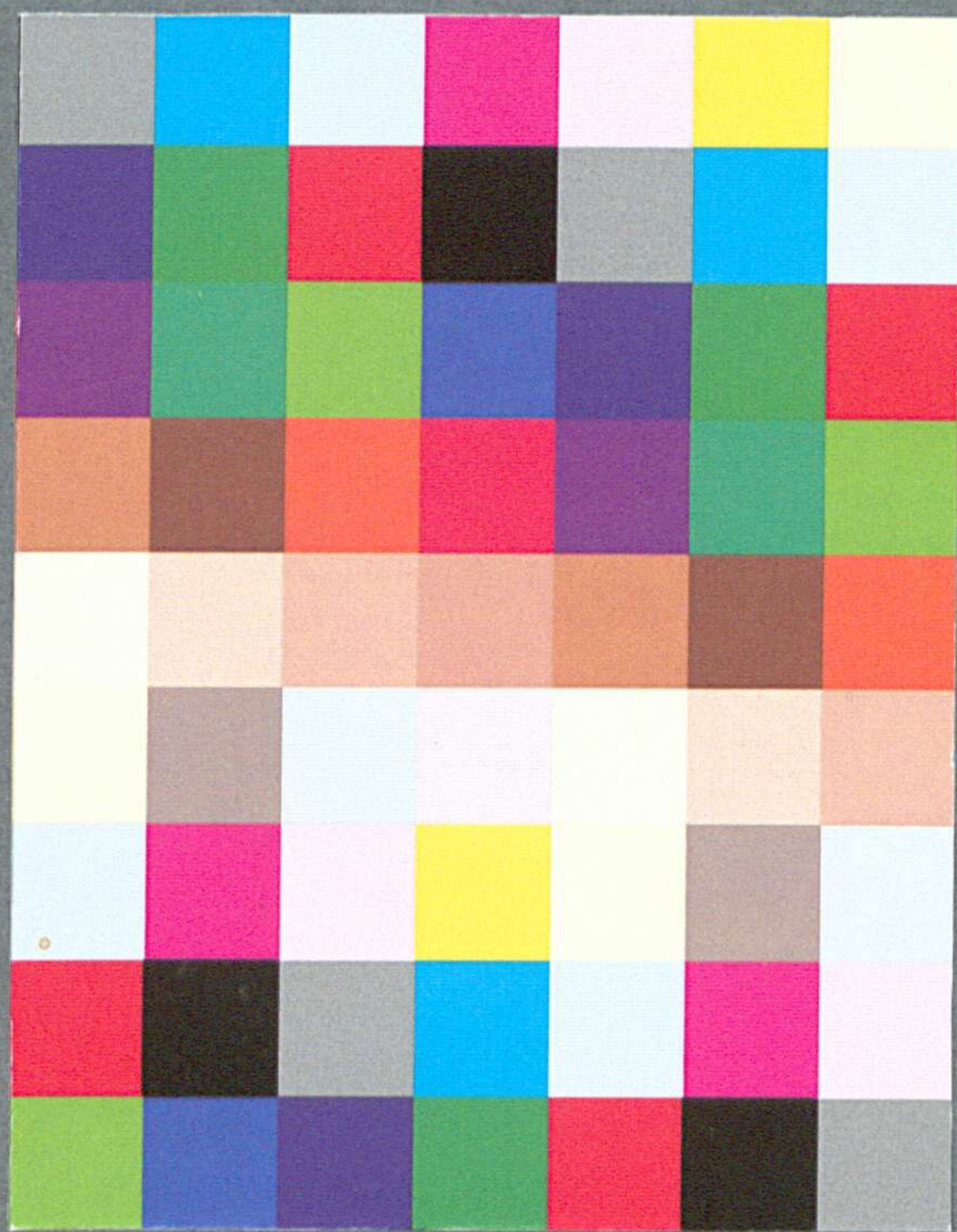
Diggins, Printer, St. Ann's Lane, London.

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Being refined and prepared under his own immediate inspection; and flatters himself that they will be found, upon trial, to be free from those imperceptible, destructive particles, which occasion such frequent changes of the brilliant HUES OF COLOURS. They have, besides, a most peculiar convenience—Each Cake being stamped with the Name of the Colour.—They are sold in Boxes of various sorts and sizes, or in single Cakes.

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A history of Madeira with a series of twenty-seven coloured engravings,
illustrative of the costumes, manners and occupations of the inhabitants
of that Island

London 1821

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